Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XX, Issue No. 231 | TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 28, 2010 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

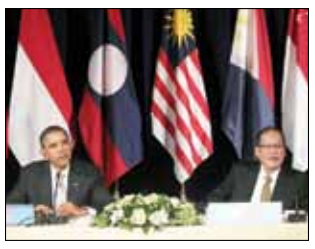
OPINION METER

This week's poll:

In the budget tussle between the House and the Senate, which number of work-hour cuts do you support?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE



State of War

The U.S. government apologizes for displaying an inverted Philippine flag.

ASIA...Page 16

Test Drive

The 2011 Infiniti M56 is so gorgeous that my mother liked it.

OVERDRIVE...Page 18

New Memoir

For Ingrid Betancourt, nothing felt more dangerous to her than when her captors tried to erase her name.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 19

Over 1,600 customers still without working water meters. PAGE 5

Man nabbed for alleged car theft linked to 'ice' peddlers. PAGE 6

Shutdown 'exemption' list out

» Govt employees, agencies told to prepare as budget impasse continues

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial issued yesterday a memorandum listing all essential service employee positions that will be exempt from a government shutdown starting Oct. 1 should the Legislature fail to pass a balanced budget by Sept. 30.

As of yesterday afternoon, the conference committee on the fiscal year 2011 budget remained deadlocked on the reduction of work hours—16 hours versus eight hours per

See SHUTDOWN on Page 4

ESSENTIAL SERVICES

TIMEKEEPERS for all branches, departments, agencies, etc.
1 timekeeper for each branch, department, agency, shall report on Oct. 4, 2010 only to process timesheets for payroll due on Oct. 8, 2010.
JUDICIARY
1 Associate Judge to conduct Gerstein hearing and bailing hearings.
1 clerk to assist associate judge with hearings.
BOARD OF PAROLE
2 parole officers
COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (All)
COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORP. (All)
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Secretary of Commerce
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS
Child Protection Unit
-assistant social worker
-Social worker
-Supervisor
Division of Youth Services (Juvenile Probation & Secured Custody)
-Adolescent counselor
-Juvenile Correction Officer
-Juvenile Correction workers
-Social worker I, II, III
Emergency Shelter/ Foster Care Unit
-Caretaker
-Community Development Officer
-Community Development Trainee
-Juvenile Correction worker
-Social worker
-Family support service supervisor
Juvenile Probation Unit/Community Based Supervision
-Social workers
Rota DYS
-Social workers
Tinian DYS
-Social workers
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
-Corrections Cadets
-Correction Captain
-Correction Lieutenant
-Correction officers I, II, III
-Correction sergeant
-Custodial worker II
-Director
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE SAIPAN
Division of Customs Seaport
Compliance section
-Inspector I, II
-Lieutenant
-Warrant Officer
Division of Custom Seaport
-Customs Trainee
-Inspector I, II, III
-Lieutenant
-Warrant Officer
Division of Customs Airport
-Customs Trainee
-Inspector I, II, III
-Lieutenant
-Warrant Officer
Division of Customs, Drug Task Force, will be on-call
Electronic Data Processing
-Computer Operator will be On-Call
-Network Administrator 1 will be On-Call
K-9 Units
-Bomb dog handler will be On-Call
-Drug dog handler will be On-Call
-Senior instructor/ supervisor will be On-Call
Postal Services

See ESSENTIAL on Page 4

Senators walk out of budget meeting

» Impasse on work hour cuts continues
» House cancels session, no revenue-generating bill passed

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Senators walked out of a conference committee meeting on the $132 million budget bill yesterday afternoon, accusing House members of playing politics when they shied away from discussing the contentious work hour cuts plan amid a looming government shutdown on Friday.

House conferees, for their part, asked why their Senate counterparts are fearful of discussing the Rota and Tinian budget first before going back to the work hour cuts.

At 2:11pm, Senate President Paul A. Manglona (R-Rota) stormed into the House chamber where the conference committee was having a meeting, saying, "Let's stop playing games."

Manglona, who was among those listening in to the meeting's proceedings, was reacting to Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) when he asked senators, "Why are you afraid to talk about Rota and Tinian?"

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian) had asked for a recess, but Basa and Vice Speaker Felicidad Ogumoro (Cov-Saipan) said they could move on to other issues besides work hour cuts, including the Rota and Tinian appropriations.

3 DAYS left before the start of the new fiscal year

The Senate version of the House budget bill increased the budget for Rota and Tinian by $1 million each.

Manglona said Senate conferees should leave the meeting and return only when the House is willing to seriously negotiate the work hour cuts in good faith.

He and the Senate conferees said when the work hour cut impasse is resolved, all other issues will be resolved in minutes.

Basa, chair of the conference committee, said the Senate is "out of order" when Manglona barged into the budget meeting.

Amid the verbal tussle, people in the gallery were also reacting, some of them accusing conferees of being unprofessional while others said "nothing's personal."

When Manglona left the chamber, Hofschneider followed. Minutes later, Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan), also a conferee, left the room.

Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota) asked for recess, saying she needed to drink water.

After announcing a break, Ogumoro and Basa convened the meeting and waited for 30 minutes—from 2:45pm to 3:15pm—for the return of the Senate conferees who, by that time, were al-

See SENATORS on Page 4

DHS, Interior pressed to issue regulations now

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Key U.S. lawmakers told Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano and Interior Secretary Ken Salazar that it is "troubling" and "unacceptable" that they have yet to issue regulations on the CNMI-only guest worker and investor programs almost a year after the federal government took over local immigration.

U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources chair Sen. Jeff Bingaman and U.S. House Committee on Natural Resources chair Rep. Nick Rahall II, along with Sen. Daniel Akaka and CNMI Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan, wanted Napolitano and Salazar to "ensure these rules are promulgated without further delay."

Akaka is the original sponsor of the

See DHS on Page 4

IT&E
Life in Motion
GET IT&E DSL NOW
5 Speeds to Meet your Needs
as low as $27.45* (1st six months)
*All NEW DSL Activations: First 6 Months of Internet 50% OFF!
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599 • Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net
SEE INSIDE FOR DETAILS
*Terms and conditions apply

Local

Borja banks on his experience, knowledge of Covenant

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former lieutenant governor and Supreme Court associate justice Jesse C. Borja said his experience in the executive and judicial branches of government and his deep knowledge of the Covenant between the U.S. and the Northern Marianas give him an edge among the four candidates for a nonvoting delegate seat in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Borja was the guest speaker at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Garapan Tuesday last week.

He said he has an economic plan for the CNMI that he could fight for in the U.S. Congress if elected.

Borja said this economic plan, along with the Covenant, will help improve the CNMI peoples' standard of living.

The Rotary Club invited three other delegates to address the club every Tuesday. Today, the guest speaker will be former House floor leader Joseph Camacho. Next week will be incumbent Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan. Former governor Juan N. Babauta was the first one to address the club.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Delegate candidate Jesse Borja, right, answers questions while Rotary Club of Saipan president Glen Perez looks on at the Rotary Club of Saipan meeting at the Hyatt Regency Tuesday last week.

Borja, during a question-and-answer, said it is still premature to discuss the proposal to grant improved immigration status to long-term foreign workers in the CNMI because the U.S. Department of the Interior report that recommended it is "defective."

He said the report is not in compliance with the law. Second, it incorrectly compares the U.S. Virgin Islands experience with that of the CNMI. Borja added there's no provision granting outright U.S. citizenship to long-term foreign workers.

Borja said he knows his way in getting the CNMI's concerns heard in Congress, and that he will work closely with the governor and the Legislature for a unified front in Congress.

Besides sharing his platform and priorities when elected to Congress, Borja also said that most members of the U.S. Congress are lawyers or have legal background like him.

He said the only other lawyer among the four delegate bets has only been practicing for a few years.

Borja was an associate justice in the CNMI Supreme Court from October 1989 to February 1993 before becoming a lieutenant governor in January 1994 to January 1998.

Although he went back to private practice in 1998, he has been practicing law since 1974. He was also a member of the Micronesian Legal Services Corp board of directors and is active in community services.

Borja leaves it up to the CNMI people to decide on the land alienation provision of the Constitution, and that the Marine Monument Visitor Center should be in the CNMI.

Fitial signs election law and two Tinian measures

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial signed three new laws on Friday, including one that seeks to prevent abuse during early voting as the CNMI prepares for the Nov. 2 delegate election.

Another law signed lifts some fishing restrictions on Tinian, while the third one renames the Natibu Park amphitheater on Tinian after the late Antonio Manglona Borja.

Fitial signed Rep. Eli Cabrera's (R-Saipan) election bill, House Bill 17-104, HS1, SS1, into Public Law 17-16.

Cabrera's bill underwent extensive amendments, including extending the 300-foot radius prohibition of campaign activity to early voting polling places.

Early voting is voting 10 days prior to Election Day.

Another amendment extends the early voting period for the Northern Islands to give the Commonwealth Election Commission time to coordinate transportation to the Northern Islands with other government agencies.

2 Tinian laws

Fitial also signed Sen. Frank Cruz's (R-Tinian) Senate Bill 17-32, which lifts some fishing restrictions on Tinian, particularly at the Puntan Diablo Point, the Breakwater area to Leprosarium Beach and Barcinas Bay.

Cruz's bill is now Public Law 17-14.

The governor also signed into law Senate Bill 17-31, SD1, which renames the Natibu Park amphitheater on Tinian to the Antonio Manglona Borja Amphitheater.

The bill, authored by Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), is now Public Law 17-15.

The late Borja was a former vice chair and member of the Northern Marianas Housing Corp. and the Commonwealth Development Authority.

Cancer Survivor Support Meeting

All cancer survivors are invited to attend the survivor support meeting on

Wednesday, September 29, 2010 at the Hyatt Chamolinian Room starting at 5:30pm.

This month's survivor support meeting will feature a presentation titled "Nutrition and the Cancer Survivor," by Ms. Hee Jae Lee, a registered dietitian who practices in the CNMI. Ms. Lee will be presenting nutrition guidelines from the American Institute for Cancer Research for cancer prevention and survivorship, and discuss ways to apply those recommendations in the islands using fresh and locally available foods. Her presentation will be followed by a survivors-only discussion.

For more information or to RSVP, contact the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or the Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728, or email cca@ccamarianas.org .

This ad is brought to you by the Department of Public Health Comprehensive Cancer Control Program with 100% funding from the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Tourism Tuesday

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Marianas Coffee Trail Run
Oct. 2, 2010

The **Marianas Visitors Authority (MVA), Marianas Coffee Co., KFC Triathlon Japan, TEAM PDI, Northern Marianas Athletics** and other supporters host the **Marianas Coffee Trail Run** this Saturday (Oct. 2).

This year's course will feature both 30K and 10K events. Registration forms are now available at the MVA office in Oleai. Registration made by Friday (Oct. 1) is US$30. Registration on event day is US$40. Registration on event day begins at 5:30 a.m. with the trail run commencing at 6:30 a.m. All participants will receive a finisher's t-shirt, certificate of participation, and free entry to the awards banquet. The banquet will be held at Micro Beach at 11:30 a.m. on race day.

Awards, including Marianas Coffee giveaways, will be given to the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place finishers in the male and female divisions. Medals will also be given to winners of the age divisions. The age divisions are: 18 yrs. and under, 19-29 years, 30-39 years, 40-49 years, and 50 years and up. Walkers for the 10K are also welcomed. For more information, contact Ed Diaz of the MVA at ediaz@mymarianas.com or 1.670.664.3210.

HAFA ADAI & TIROW WAY

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Academy identifies future needs of NMI farmers, ranchers

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The impending military buildup will provide many opportunities for CNMI ranchers and livestock producers but Saipan's lack of an operational slaughterhouse could get in the way.

The need for a slaughterhouse is among the challenges identified during the second series of the Mariana Grazing and Livestock Management Academy Workshop last Sept. 23 to 25.

The Mariana Grazing and Livestock Management Academy is aimed at building local agricultural capacity and educating farmers and ranchers about increasing the economic viability of their products.

The academy, funded by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, is a group effort of different agencies, including the Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service, the University of Hawaii at Manoa, University of the Virgin Islands, and the University of Guam.

The second series of the workshop saw the participation of some 25 ranchers, farmers, livestock producers and other interested individuals.

The workshop presenters included Mark Thorne, Matthew Stevenson, Glen Fukumoto, and John Powley of the University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources; Robert Godfrey of the University of the Virgin Islands Agricultural Experiment Station; and Lawerence Duponcheel of NMC-CREES on Tinian.

The first day of the workshop involved presentations about mobile slaughter facilities, reproductive management, planning a successful artificial insemination program, grazing animal behavior, and animal handling facilities on the islands.

During the second day, discussions focused on range and pasture animal nutrition, forage resources, and animal health and management followed by field program activities at Ernest Torres' cattle farm.

Discussions and strategic planning held at the college comprised the last day of the workshop.

Besides the lack of an operational slaughterhouse, other challenges or weaknesses for local farmers and ranchers include availability of supplies and materials, high shipping and maintenance costs, limited land, the island's remote location, lack of a formal livestock association or farmers' cooperative, and the issues on labor and minimum wage.

"These challenges make it difficult for us to achieve our vision so we have to be more resilient and turn them to opportunities so we can succeed," said Thorne, who is a state extension specialist for Pasture and Livestock Management.

According to Thorne, they always learn something about the unique situations on the islands of Saipan, Tinian, and Rota every time they visit the islands for the workshop.

Now on its second year, the academy helps local ranchers and farmers address issues and concerns as well as direct them to the kind of workshops they need to conduct.

County extension agent Powley said the three-day workshop helped provide ranchers and farmers with the information they need to improve their livestock management.

"The idea is to look at the sustainability and food security of these islands," said Powley.

MPLT sues 2 to collect on 12-year-old loan

The Marianas Public Land Trust has sued two persons for allegedly refusing to pay $33,343 in loan, interest, and other fees.

MPLT, through counsel Robert T. Torres, sued Juliana S. Ruben and Marcelino T. Michael for breach of contract, conversion, and unjust enrichment.

MPLT asked the Superior Court to order Ruben and Michael to pay $32,139.28 in principal amount, $1,097.42 in interest, and $107.14 in other fees.

MPLT also asked the court to order the sale of the property used as collateral for the loan and that the proceeds be applied to the balance due on the judgment.

Torres stated in the complaint that Ruben and Michael obtained from MPLT a loan of $32,000 on Sept. 25, 1998.

"Defendants have not made the monthly installment payments as they became due. They are in default on the agreement," Torres said.

The lawyer said the two have refused and failed to cure the default on or before Sept. 1, 2010. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

ARMATECH
LED Lightings For
Residential, Commercial
& Industrial.
Tel. no 234-8895 • Mobile: 287-5525/898-5943

Glushko's Academy
BALLET classes for all ages
Jazz, Hip-Hop and Modern DANCE
*Back-2-School DISCOUNTS!
*Family DISCOUNTS!
*FREE trial classes!
E-mail: glushkosacademy@yahoo.com, call: 483-6271
We located on 2nd floor of Marianas Business Plaza

IMMIGRATION LAW
Bruce L. Mailman
Maya B. Kara
Available services include
• U.S. Permanent Residence (Green Card)
• U.S. Naturalization/Citizenship
• Employment Based U.S. Visas (H1B, H2B, L1, EB1, E1, E2, and others)
• Status Clarification
Call for Appointment
(670) 233-0081
Law Offices of Mailman & Kara, LLC
Corner of Beach Road and Cpl.
Derence Jack R., Garapan, Saipan

IT&E has the SPEED YOU NEED
GET IT&E DSL NOW!
Always ON!
as low as $27.45* (1st six months)
Offer valid Sept. 17, 2010- Oct. 30, 2010
*All NEW DSL Activations:
First 6 Months of Internet 50% OFF!
• Activation: FREE! (Save $40)
• Self Installation: FREE!
PLUS
IT&E Dial up customers get a FREE modem**(Save $75)
IT&E
Life in Motion
5 SPEEDS TO MEET YOUR NEEDS
Saipan: 682-4ITE (4483) • Tinian: 433-0210 • Rota: 532-3599
Guam: 671-922-4ITE (4483) • www.ite.net

SHUTDOWN

From Page 1

pay period—to help balance the $132 million spending plan. Tempers flared and Senate members walked out of the meeting.

Most of what Fitial listed as exempted employees are those that deliver essential services related to public health, safety and welfare.

Also exempted are programs fully funded by the federal government and those with no impact on general fund resources.

The governor's list does not exempt the governor, lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the 29 lawmakers, judges and justices—at least at this time.

"Please note that during the shutdown of our government, only those employees who are essential and who have worked will be paid," he said.

Without a timely passed balanced budget, this will be the first time in CNMI history that a government will be forced to shut down, except for positions delivering essential services. The shutdown will continue until a balanced budget is passed.

But House minority leader Diego T. Benavente (R-Saipan), author of the legislative initiative that requires timely passage of a balanced budget every fiscal year, questions the governor's authority to infringe upon the Legislature and the Judiciary's power to determine essential service positions in their respective branches.

The Legislature has yet to pass a law defining "essential service positions."

Fitial said that absent this law, he will issue an emergency order defining those positions.

"The determination of 'essential services' will be subject to ongoing review and modification without prior notice. For example, certain services not currently listed may, due to the passage of time, become 'essential,'" he said.

Capital Hill employees interviewed yesterday said they don't have a choice but to follow either the governor's memo or any new law passed stating who will be required to work and continue to get paid, and those who will not be required to work and not get paid.

Fitial, who submitted his budget proposal on April 1, said it is "regrettable" that he had to issue the eight-page memo.

But the governor still hopes the Legislature passes a balanced budget very soon.

He said he had hoped the Legislature would pass a balanced a budget and forward it to his office for approval by Sept. 1, 2010, as required by law.

"However, it is now less than a week before our new fiscal year and no budget has been enacted. Therefore, I am issuing this memorandum so that all affected government branches, departments, and agencies can begin preparing for a possible shutdown of certain government operations and services beginning Oct. 1, 2010," Fitial said in a memo to the Judiciary, Legislature, mayors, municipal councils, Northern Marianas College, Public School System, autonomous agencies, and departments/agencies.

Judiciary

In the Judicial Branch, the governor listed as exempt from shutdown only one associate judge to conduct Gerstein hearings and bail hearings.

Also exempted is one clerk to assist an associate judge with hearings, as well as two parole officers under the Board of Parole.

But Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and Presiding Judge Robert Naraja, in a Sept. 23 letter to House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan), listed five sets of employees and services of the Judiciary deemed essential. ***(See related story on Page 9)***

Demapan and Naraja said any further specific determinations of what are essential services and who is required to fulfill such services must be made within the Judiciary.

Legislature

The governor's memo does not mention lawmakers as essential service positions exempt from a shutdown. Lawmakers won't receive a salary until they pass a balanced budget under a legislative initiative that voters ratified last year.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said pursuant to the legislative initiative that amended the constitution, the lawmakers shall have their funds suspended and forfeited should they fail to pass a balanced budget by Oct. 1.

"It should be noted, that when the initiative was introduced, it was intended to ensure that lawmakers abide by their constitutional duty to pass a balanced budget. Thus, granting exemptions to lawmakers will defeat the intent of the constitutional mandate. Accordingly, the governor and lt. governor fulfilled their obligation by submitting a budget proposal on April 1," he said.

Demapan said as it stands today, the governor, lieutenant governor and attorney general are not on the first round of essential employees given that there is no budget bill pending before them for review and approval/disapproval.

"Bear in mind that as the shutdown period prolongs or should developments arise, the governor will exercise his authority to expand and/or amend the list of essential services," he added.

Wholesale exemptions

Fitial exempted from a shutdown the entire Commonwealth Ports Authority, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp., and the Public School System.

In the Northern Marianas College, only instructional and support staff are exempt.

Fitial's list of exempted Department of Public Health personnel is a long one. They include nurses, doctors, midwives, laboratory technicians, medical referral officers, pharmacists and therapists, among other posts.

The governor also listed a lot of Department of Public Safety personnel exempt from a shutdown, including emergency dispatchers, firefighters and police officers.

Federally funded programs and those without impact on general fund resources that are exempted from shutdown include the Coastal Resources Management, Commonwealth Development Authority, Commerce's CNMI ARRA Office and Military Integration and Management Committee, DCCA's Nutrition Assistance program, and the Division of Environmental Quality.

ESSENTIAL

From Page 1

-Custom Trainee
-Inspector I, II
-Warrant Officer

Department of Finance, Division of Customs Rota, passenger and luggage inspection activities only**.**

DEPARTMENT OF LANDS AND NATURAL RESOURCES

Quarantine: (Saipan, Tinian, and Rota) passenger and luggage inspection activities **only.**
-Inspector trainees
-Inspector I, II
-Officer I, II

DOA Animal Health
-Animal health inspector (should also assume duties of animal health specialist during the shutdown)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH SAIPAN

Biomedical
-Trades Specialist I (1 on duty, 1 on call)

Business Office
-Eligibility worker I, II

Clinic Operations (FCC)
-Clinical attendant III
-Staff Nurse

Communication
-Communication operators I, II

Dietary
-Cook, I, II, II
-Food service supervisor I, II

EEG
-EEG Technician

Emergency Room
-Clerk I
-Licensed practical nurse
-Staff nurse

Health information
-Medical records technician I, II
-Medical transcriptionist

Hemodialysis
-Hemodialysis technician
-Licensed practical nurse
-Nursing assistant
-Staff nurse

Housekeeping
-Custodial worker I

Intensive Care Unit
-Staff Nurse

Labor and Delivery
-Manager, Nursing Unit
-Midwife
-Nurse midwife
-Staff Nurse

Laboratory
-Clinical Laboratory Scientist
-Clinical Laboratory Technician
-Phlebotomist Trainee
-Phlebotomist I, II

Medical Surgery
-Licensed Practical Nurse
-Nursing assistant
-Staff nurse

Medical Referral Guam
-Med Ref Trainee
-Med Ref Officer
-Supply Specialist

Medical Referral Honolulu
-Administrative officer/ fiscal officer
-Med Ref assistant (limit to 2 per shift)

Medical Referral Saipan
-Med Ref assistant (limit to 2 per shift)

Mental Health Division
-Clinical Psychologist
-Nursing assistant

Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
-Head Nurse
-Staff nurse

Nursing Administration
-Director of Nursing
-Hospital Nursing Supervisor
-Nurse Practitioner

Obstetrics Unit
-Licensed Practical Nurse
-Nursing assistant
-Staff Nurse

Operation Room
-Manager, Nursing Unit
-Nursing assistant
-Staff nurse

Pediatrics
-Licensed Practical Nurse
-Nursing assistant
-Staff Nurse

Pharmacy
-Manager, Inpatient Pharmacy service
-Pharmacist
-Pharmacy Specialist

Physical Therapy
-Clinical attendant I
-Physical Therapist Technicians
-Staff Physical Therapist

Physicians (All)

Plant Operations
-Engineer Technician II
-Medical Supply Technician
-Trades Helper
-Trade Specialist II
-Trades Technician I, II

Psychiatric Unit
-Licensed Practical Nurse
-Manager, Nursing Unit
-Nursing assistant
-Staff Nurse

Public Health Division
-Licensed Practical Nurse
-Medical Records assistant
-Nurse Practitioner
-Registered Nurse

Radiology
-Manager, Radiology Services
-Radiography Technician
-Ultrasonographer
-X Ray Technician II, III

Respiratory Therapy
-Respiratory Therapist

Security
-Security Guard II

Social Services
-Social Worker II, III

Women's Clinic
-Clinical attendant I
-Clinical attendant Coordinator
-Licensed Practical Nurse
-Staff Nurse

Department of Public Health (Rota Health Center)
-Physicians
-Staff Nurse

Department of Public Health (Tinian Health Center)
-Cashier/ Accounting
-Dental assistant
-Dentist
-Family Nurse Practitioner
-Housekeeping
-Laboratory Technician
-Maintenance
-Medical records
-Physicians
-Physician assistant
-Pharmacy
-Radiology
-Staff Nurse

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS
Ranger I, II for Managaha Operations *only***.**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY SAIPAN

Boating Safety Unit will be *on-call*

Criminal Investigation Bureau will be *on-call*

Emergency Dispatch section
-Dispatchers

Fire Division (No more than 9 total firefighter per shift)
-Firefighter I, II, III
-Lieutenants
-Wild land firefighters

Police Division (No more than 8 total officers per shift)
-Police Officers I, II, III
-Sergeants

Traffic administration section will be *on-call* only for police officers assigned to this section. All other administrative staff will not report.

Traffic Investigation Unit will be *on-call* only for police officers assigned to this section. All other administrative staff will not report.

Traffic STLE Enforcement
-Police Officers I, II, III

Traffic DUI Enforcement
-Police Officers I, II, III

Department of Public Safety Rota excluding administrative personnel

Department of Public Safety Tinian excluding administrative personnel

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

Solid Waste Management Division
-Accounting Technician I
-Trades helper
-Tradesman
-Equipment Operator II, III, IV

Technical Services (only those dealing with Federal Highways projects)
-Civil/highway branch manager
-Highway Administrator
-Highway Cad Designer
-Highway Engineer I, II, III
-Highway Inspector

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE
Communications operators
Response and recovery will be *on-call*

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE (instructional and support staff only)

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL:
Assistant attorneys general

OFFICE OF ADULT PROBATION:
Probation Officers

PUBLIC DEFENDER'S OFFICE:
Assistant public defenders

PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (All)

Federally funded programs that are also exempt from shutdown:

Coastal Resources Management

Commonwealth Development Authority

Department of Commerce

CNMI ARRA Office

Military Integration and Management Committee

Department of Community and Cultural Affairs
Nutrition Assistance Program

Division of Environmental Quality

Department of Lands and Natural Resources
Division of Fish and Wildlife

Department of Public Health
Women, Infant, Children program

Department of Public Works
Energy Divisions

Northern Marianas Housing Corp.

DHS

From Page 1

CNMI immigration provisions in Public Law 110-229, which was signed in May 2008 and placed CNMI immigration under federal control on Nov. 28, 2009.

"As time continues to pass without rules in place, it becomes increasingly difficult to convince the people of the CNMI that the federal government is concerned about them and the state of the CNMI economy," the lawmakers told Napolitano and Salazar in Sept. 20 letter.

The lawmakers have yet to receive response from the departments of Homeland Security and Interior secretaries.

DHS failed to meet its self-imposed deadline of July 2010 to issue regulations for the CNMI Nonimmigrant Investor Visa Classification, and has yet to meet its self-imposed deadline of September 2010 to issue the CNMI Transitional Worker Visa Classification.

PL 110-229 required that regulations establishing the foreign investor visa classification be in place "not later than 60 days before the transition program effective date."

"It is now almost one year later and the final regulations are still pending, despite the timeline included in the DHS Semiannual Regulatory Agenda published in the Federal Register on April 26, 2010, which indicated the Final Rule would be issued in July 2010. This date has also passed," the lawmakers said.

Bingaman, Rahall, Akaka and Sablan cited a May 19, 2009, letter from former Assistant Secretary for Policy Richard Barth stating that DHS is quite aware of the challenges facing the CNMI economy and considers it a priority to support existing businesses when developing policies and regulations to implement the legislation.

"Over a year later, the lack of regulations mandated by P.L. 110-229, which both the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of the Interior acknowledge is necessary to encourage growth and improve the CNMI economy, is unacceptable," the lawmakers said.

They said the CNMI people are ready to move forward and make the most of the opportunities provided them in PL 110-229.

"This remains difficult without the nonimmigrant investor visa and transitional worker visa rules in place," they added.

Sablan, in a separate statement, said the DHS regulations were supposed to be in place by Nov. 28, 2009.

"At Governor Fitial's request, a federal court halted implementation of the transitional worker regulations to allow more time for public comment. Since then, the lack of regulations hurts our economy. In our letter to Secretary Napolitano and Secretary Salazar, Bingaman, Rahall, Akaka, and I ask them to make issuing the regulations a priority," he added.

SENATORS

From Page 1

ready at the Senate session.

Rep. Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), who is also a conferee, had to leave the House chamber for an important meeting. Earlier in the meeting, Cabrera reiterated that he is opposed to a Saipan casino bill.

During the Senate session, Manglona vented his frustration with House conferees for continuing to have a "take it or leave it" attitude when they are supposed to be open to a compromise with their Senate counterparts.

Torres said that Senate conferees have already compromised by agreeing to seven unpaid holidays instead of zero, to meet halfway the House's proposed 13 unpaid holidays.

Manglona also expressed frustration that the House cancelled its Monday morning session, when they promised on Friday that they will pass revenue-generating bills.

He said Basa and Ogumoro earlier met with senators and together, they went over every page of House Bill 17-40, HD2, SS1 and agreed to pass the measure.

"As you agreed, we need to work on revenue generating measures to avoid layoffs or deep austerity cuts," he said in a letter to House Speaker Froilan Tenorio (Cov-Saipan) yesterday.

In another letter, Manglona said he will begin attending the conference committee meeting beginning today, and hopes that the House speaker will do the same.

The Senate scheduled daily sessions until the end of fiscal year 2010 to be able to act on revenue-generating bills that the House will pass. There's no rescheduled House session announced as of late yesterday afternoon.

However, the House conferees called for a press conference this afternoon.

Yesterday marked the 13th day since the six-member conference committee was formed and they remain deadlocked on the work hour cuts.

The House stands firm on a 16-hour work cut per pay period and 13 unpaid holidays, while the Senate wants only an eight-hour cut plus seven unpaid holidays in fiscal year 2011.

Despite the continued impasse, the House and Senate conferees are still hopeful that both can agree on a budget bill.

Basa said they will continue to urge the senators to return to the conference committee meeting.

NMC posts $4.52M net operating loss in FY 2009

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College posted a net operating loss of approximately $4.52 million in fiscal year 2009, which means the college did not generate enough revenue from operations to cover all of its expenses during the period.

Based on the fiscal year 2009 audit report, the college will continue to reflect operating losses until such time that revenues are increased substantially and NMC no longer has to rely on CNMI appropriations, particularly since these appropriations are reported as non-operating income.

The report indicated that NMC posted total net operating revenues of $9.515 million in fiscal year 2009, which consists of the following items:

- $6.7 million from U.S. federal grants;
- $1.6 million from student tuition and fees;
- $40,278 from private gifts, grants, and donations; and
- $1.2 million from other sources.

On the other hand, the college's total operating expenses reached $14.038 million last fiscal year. This translates to a $4.5 million operating loss.

Saipan Tribune learned that student tuition and fees decreased by about $134,000 between fiscal years 2008 and 2009, mainly because of declining enrollment since 2004. To compensate for the decreased enrollment and to adjust its rate structure, NMC increased its tuition and fees in fiscal year 2006 after an extensive review process.

The report noted that a large portion of the college's tuition and fees are funded via Pell grants to students. NMC relies on revenue from tuition and fees for nonpayroll-related expenses, including equipment renewals, replacements, and maintenance.

Federal grants increased by about $309,000, primarily due to new grants and increased levels of expenditures for several U.S. federal grant assistance programs at the college.

The audit report also indicated that expenses increased by about $567,000 compared to 2008, consistent with the increased level of operating revenues as a result of new grants and related support costs.

Govt appropriations

Appropriations from the CNMI government in fiscal year 2009 remained consistent with the level of funding received in 2008. The report indicated that the CNMI government's support to NMC has remained consistent in spite of tough times. This has enabled the college to maintain its current staffing levels as appropriations primarily fund salaries and benefits.

The college, meantime, posted significant progress in its Endowment Fund investments, which posted a net gain of about $303,000 for the year, consistent with the overall performance of the market.

In fiscal year 2008, this fund lost about $694,000 in value.

Over 1,600 CUC customers still without working water meters

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Residential customers make up the bulk of Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s 1,656 clients who still have no working water meters.

In a report to the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission, CUC disclosed that there are currently 1,298 residential customers who are paying a flat rate for their water consumption, while 358 commercial customers don't have working water meters.

In the same report, CUC said that all government water customers are now metered.

According to the commission, the utility agency projects that all commercial customers will be metered by Oct. 15 this year. For residential patrons, it targets to complete the metering installation by Jan. 15, 2011.

CUC is mandated to provide the commission a status report on both goals for its November regulatory session.

Saipan Tribune learned that aside from more than 1,600 non-metered customers, there are also a large number of unmetered wastewater customers.

CUC has asked the commission until next month to respond to the commission's order to investigate and report on the number of unmetered wastewater customers and the need to establish a temporary unmetered tariff.

CUC estimates it would need $17 million to resolve all water issues, including installation of working meters, based on the assessment of the chief of engineering for water and wastewater.

When all customers are metered and water is properly accounted for, consumption drops, system pressure improves, and chlorination and pumping costs fall.

CUC disclosed that at its current rate, it may take three years to complete the metering of all water and wastewater customers on Saipan.

CUC records show that there are 10,000 water customers on island. It has 146 wells, 16 storage tanks and reservoirs, and 18 booster stations.

PUC's non-exemption to government shutdown will impact CUC operation

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission said its non-exemption from the looming government shutdown will have a negative impact on the operations of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.

"Although the commission is an autonomous agency within the Executive Branch, we could be possibly affected, depending on how long it would last. CUC has been exempted because it is one of the essential services; however, the commission itself has not been exempted," commission chair Viola Alepuyo told members during Friday's meeting.

The CNMI Constitution mandates that in the event the Legislature fails to pass a budget by Oct. 1, the government will have to shut down and only essential services like CUC will be exempted.

Although the commission employs no staff, Alepuyo said there are consultants and a hearing officer that might be affected by a government shutdown.

Georgetown Consulting works as a consultant for CPUC.

Alepuyo, along with all its members, work as volunteers for the commission.

"That's the concern. We need to advise our hearing examiner and the Georgetown Consulting [about the matter]," she told members.

Commission members also pointed out the potential impact of a shutdown on some of CUC's operation.

"For example, if CUC wants to enter into a contract, it's prohibited by law without the commission's approval," they said.

Members agreed to seek legal opinion and interpretation of the issue.

Georgetown budget

In the same meeting, the commission tabled discussion on the proposed fiscal year 2011 budget for its consultant, Georgetown Consulting, but approved an initial two-month payment in preparation for the November regulatory session.

According to the commission, they have to go back and revisit some of the proposed numbers for the next fiscal year, which will start on Oct. 1.

However, because Georgetown is expected to work in preparation for the next regulatory session, the commission agreed on an interim amount that would be used to pay for Georgetown's services in October and November 2010.

After the two-month interim contract, Georgetown is expected not to initiate any new regulatory work for CPUC without its approval.

Last month, senators balked at what they described as the high cost of maintaining consultants for CUC and CPUC.

From 2009 to August 2010, CUC and CPUC paid over $1.028 million for its legal and consultant fees.

Man nabbed for alleged car theft linked to 'ice' peddlers

An auto shop owner who was twice arrested since July 2010 for allegedly stealing vehicles and falsifying their certificates of ownership was apprehended again last week on the same charges.

Mohammad Jahangir Miah is being charged with receiving stolen property and tampering with a vehicle. He posted a $1,500 cash bail on Wednesday. Lawyer Edward Arriola Sr. serves as his counsel.

Traffic investigator Norris Kwon stated in his report that the Department of Public Safety had received a report on July 4, 2010, about a stolen vehicle in As Lito.

Kwon said investigation showed that the victim, an illegal taxi operator, received a call between 12:30pm to 1pm from a "friend" who asked to pick him up near the Family Market in Dandan.

The victim proceeded to Family Market where his "friend" asked him to take him to a residence in As Lito.

The passenger got down at the residence of Juan Tydingco and talked to another man. The other man asked the victim to help him with something behind the house.

The taxi driver got down from the car and followed the man to the back of the house. The victim, however, could not find the man in the back.

When the victim returned to the front, his car was already being driven away by the other man.

The victim walked to Happy Market in As Lito where he called 911 to report that his Toyota Echo with license plate ACW-312 had been stolen.

Kwon said that follow-up investigation showed that the person who allegedly stole the car was Pedro Demapan.

Demapan then handed the car over to Calistro Crisostimo, who then sold it to Miah.

Kwon said they received information that Miah's auto shop in As Lito is a known "chop-shop" shop. Miah would allegedly buy stolen cars, take them apart, then re-sell them by parts or the stolen vehicles after his shop had done some alterations such as repainting the cars or changing some parts around.

Miah would also allegedly either buy stolen vehicles using cash or methamphetamine or "ice."

Kwon said that Miah uses ex-convicts in his illegal activities and has previously victimized some illegal taxi operators.

Demapan, Crisostimo, and Tydingco were arrested by authorities in July for alleged "ice" trafficking.

Kwon said he and two detectives went to Miah's former girlfriend's house in San Antonio on July 23, 2010, where they found vehicle body parts that belonged to the victim's stolen car.

That same day, Norris said he interviewed Miah's wife, Tahira S. Miah, who admitted that her husband negotiated a deal to purchase a blue Echo from Calvin Fitial on July 4, 2010.

Kwon said that Fitial has an extensive criminal history.

Mrs. Miah allegedly admitted that her husband paid Fitial $300 in check and $150 in cash in exchange for the Echo car.

On Aug. 6, Kwon said he interviewed the suspect's ex-girlfriend, who admitted that Miah and a Bangladeshi man dropped off the car parts at her house. The ex-girlfriend allegedly told police that Miah is involved in many such cases.

On July 23, 2010, police arrested Miah on charges of receiving stolen property, theft of vehicle, and tampering with a vehicle.

Weeks later, on Aug. 9, 2010, police again arrested Miah and his wife on charges they stole a vehicle and falsified its certificate of ownership.

In late August, the Superior Court dismissed the charges against the Miah couple in connection with the first case.

In 2006, the Superior Court sentenced Miah to three years in prison for forging Labor and Immigration documents to collect money from an alien worker. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

DCCA Child Care Program

Caller Box 1007 Saipan, MP 96950
Bldg. No. 1347 Ascension Ct. Capital Hill
Tel no. 664-2576/2587/2546
Fax no. 664-2547

DCCA Childcare Program

Announcement

This is to inform all families under the Child Care Program that the renewal month is October, 2010. You may pick up the application form from the Child Care program Office beginning October 1, 2010. All applications along with attachments must be turned in on or before Friday, October 29, 2010 at 12:00p.m. Applications turned in after this date and time will not be accepted.

Child Care Program Office Hours:

Mondays to Thursday s 7:30a.m. to 4:30p.m. (including lunch time)

Fridays, 7:30a.m. to 1:00p.m. Open

1:00p.m. to 4:30p.m. Closed

Also, the Child Care Program Staff will be conducting renewal outreach for the month of October. Please see below the dates, time, and venue of these outreach activities. During the renewal outreach, you may pick up application forms or submit your completed application forms along with the complete documentations. CCDF Program Staff will be unable to accept applications unless the needed documents are attached. Additionally, there will be no copier available so please ensure you have copies available to provide. Copies must be clear.

Renewal outreach schedule:

Date	Time	Venue
Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2010,	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	Ada Gymnasium. Oleai
Wednesday, Oct. 13, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	WSR Elem. Cafeteria,CK
Thursday, Oct. 14, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe
Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe
Wednesday, Oct. 20, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	WSR Elem. Cafeteria, CK
Thursday, Oct. 21, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe
Tuesday, Oct. 26, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	WSR Elem. Cafeteria, CK
Wednesday, Oct. 27, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe
Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010	5:00p.m. to 8:00p.m.	Multi-Purpose Hall, Susupe

Form Approved for Distribution: _____ Date: 9/27/2010

This ad has been funded under the Department of Health and Human Services/Administration for Children and Families/CCB

Man allegedly beats up wife at Station of the Cross area

A drunk man allegedly beat up his wife inside their house and at the Station of the Cross area in Ginalangan, Rota early Thursday morning.

Faustino Kodil Takeshi, 48, was arrested for assault, assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. Bail was set at $10,000 cash.

At yesterday's hearing, Superior Court associate judge Kenneth Govendo set the preliminary hearing on Oct. 4, 2010 at 9am. He appointed assistant public defender Richard Miller to serve as counsel for the suspect.

Sgt. Jonathan DLC. Garces stated in his report that on Thursday at 1:39am, the Rota Department of Public Safety received a call about a disturbance at the Takeshi residence in the Ginalangan area.

A girl, who was crying on the phone, told the dispatcher that her father was beating up her mother.

Garces said a police officer arrived at the residence at 1:45am and met with the victim, who was crying. Her shirt had bloodstains on the front.

The victim told police that Taskeshi punched her in the mouth and back several times. When she tried to escape, Takeshi allegedly pulled her back by grabbing her hair and then continued beating her up.

The victim managed to get out of the room and she ran to the road leading to the Station of the Cross area. The suspect caught up with the victim and again beat her up. The children followed their mother on the road and tried to calm down their father.

Police came and arrested Takeshi.

Garces said that, during his interview, Takeshi admitted to kicking the victim's back as he was eating in the kitchen. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

DPW exec in sexual assault case shows up to respond to charges

A Department of Public Works official appeared yesterday in the Superior Court to answer charges that he sexually assaulted a trainee of the Workforce Investment Agency.

DPS Technical Services Division director Joseph M. Inos Jr., 32, came to court without a lawyer after summons was sent to him for his arraignment.

Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, however, continued the arraignment to Oct. 4, 2010, to give the Office of Adult Probation more time to determine whether Inos is indigent or eligible for court-appointed counsel.

Chief prosecutor Michael Ernest appeared for the government.

During arraignment, a suspect is routinely expected to plead not guilty to charges.

Ernest stated in the charging information that on Aug. 16, 2010, Inos "unlawfully struck, beat, wounded, or otherwise caused bodily harm, or had sexual contact" with a 17-year-old child.

Ernest said that Inos "unlawfully detained the minor by force and against her will."

Saipan Tribune learned that the alleged offenses happened inside Inos' office at DPW. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy birthday to a wonderful father and husband, Regino Celis Jr.! We love you! Greetings come from your wife and children.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMI delegates to Guam Fair may have to pay for own airfares

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Unless the government sponsors the local artists that will be participating in the 2010 Guam Micronesian Fair, they may have to pay for their own airfares, according to the Commonwealth Council for Arts and Culture.

The 2010 Guam Micronesian Fair will take place at the Ypao beach from Oct. 15 to 17.

Executive director Angel S. Hocog told *Saipan Tribune* that they met with eight artists who have signed up for the fair last Sept. 17

Hocog told the artists that if the proposed budget to send them to Guam does not get approved by the cash-strapped government, they will have to shoulder their own expenses.

Despite the lack of budget, Hocog said the artists still expressed interest in joining Guam's counterpart of the Flame Tree Arts Festival.

According to Hocog, they have worked out discounted rates with Freedom Air for participating artists from Saipan, Tinian, and Rota.

Hocog said they have also been communicating with the Guam Visitors Bureau, which agreed to sponsor hotel, ground transportation, and meal accommodations for the CNMI delegation.

The executive director said they anticipate additional artists to sign up for the fair before the deadline this Friday, Oct. 1.

"As the time for the fair draws closer, more artists will express interest in joining the fair," he said.

Hocog said they will meet with the artists before Oct. 12 to finalize the lineup of the CNMI artist delegation and send it to the Guam Visitors Bureau.

COASTAL CLEANUP
Members of the Shirley's Team pose for a group picture after participating in the International Coastal Cleanup last Friday, Sept. 24, 2010. The group cleaned up the Sugar Dock site, heading south.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

NMC seeking consultant to guide, file research on show-cause report

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Northern Marianas College wants to hire a consultant that would guide the institution and file research for its show-cause report due next month.

A request for proposal seeking show-cause consultation services for NMC was issued Friday. The bid is open until Oct. 4, a few days before the Oct. 15 deadline.

According to the announcement, the project is funded under the American Recovery Reinvestment Act and as such, local preference is not applicable.

The RFP was signed by Commerce Secretary Michael Ada, Procurement and Supply director Herman Sablan, and concurred by NMC interim president Lorraine Cabrera.

Cabrera confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* NMC's intention to bring in a consultant to help with its pending show-cause report.

She stressed, though, that the consultant will not write the report itself, but the college.

NMC, she said, is committed to doing everything it can to get accreditation reaffirmed, including seeking the services and help of outside consultants.

"The consultant will compile research and use its professional expertise to provide guidance and advice to NMC in its work toward reaffirmation of accreditation with ACCJC," Cabrera said in a statement.

She added that this will include meeting and working with the Board of Regents and NMC management, staff, and faculty, and reviewing related action plans, reports, and other relevant documents.

"It's important to note that the consultant will not write the Oct. 15, 2010 show-cause report, which is being developed internally at the college by the respective accreditation standard teams," Cabrera emphasized.

The interim president said that it is standard practice in higher education to bring in outside consultants as an extra set of eyes that may see things that the college may have overlooked.

This was the second time NMC was placed on show-cause status by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. It first got the severe sanction in 2007 but successfully reaffirmed accreditation last June 2009.

Just a year after reaffirmation, WASC again placed the college on show-cause status on June 30, citing 10 new concerns that need to be addressed or else its accreditation will be terminated.

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD MEETING

The regular monthly meeting of the Zoning Board will be held on Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at 6:00 PM, Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten DanDan Commercial Bldg., Saipan.

A. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
5. Communications
6. Public Comments

B. Reports
1. Chairperson
2. Secretary
3. Treasurer
4. Administrator
5. Committees
6. Legal Counsel

C. Public Hearing
1. A request for a Conditional Use Permit to operate "Kee Tourist Convenience Cool Spot" as a restaurant. This business would be located in a WWII Quonset building on lot# 028 A 01 in the Village of Marpi. This is just south of a Buddhist Temple and within 2500' of Wing Beach Place. The property is currently zoned as "Rural". Requested by Ta Bun Kuy.
2. A request for a Conditional Use Permit to build institutionalized housing (for employees) on lot# 1937 New-1. This property is at the intersection of Beach Road and Quartermaster Road. This is the site of the Sasha Building and the "Speedy Tertle" Dive Shop. The property is zoned as "Beach Road". Requested by Alexander Vekhov.
3. A request for a Variance to allow the construction of more parking for TSL Plaza. This property is located at Garapan Beach Road and Kadena Di Amor Street. The applicants would construct two new parking aisles on the east and west sides of Bouganvilla Avenue. The applicants will pave this section of Bouganvilla Avenue and use it as their driveway. This site is zoned as "Tourist Resort". Requested by Ivan Quichocho.

D. Old Business
1. Update on Zoning Office Operations (Permit Processing, Enforcement, Junk Car Program)

E. New Business
1. None

F. Executive (Closed) Session

G. Miscellaneous: Other Matters, Announcements, Next Meeting, Adjourn.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, Zoning Administrator, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & 10 CMC 3511, et seq.).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Chairperson, Zoning Board

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Kee Tourist Convenience Cool Spot (Full House Inc.)

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Mr. Ta Bun Kuy would like to operate a restaurant on a property zoned as "Rural." This business would be located in a WWII Quonset building on lot# 028 A 01 in Marpi. This is just south of a Buddhist Temple and within 2500' of Wing Beach Place.

Date: October 12, 2010 (Tuesday)
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,
Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, October 12, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chair

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for
Sasha Building Employee Housing

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Conditional Use application. Mr. Alexander Vekhov is requesting to build institutionalized housing (for employees) on lot# 1937 New-1. This property is at the intersection of Beach Road and Quartermaster Road. This is the site of the Sasha Building and the "Speedy Tertle" Dive Shop. The property is zoned as "Beach Road".

Date: October 12, 2010 (Tuesday)
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,
Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, October 12, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chair

NOTICE OF ZONING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING

for TSL Plaza parking stalls

The public is invited to attend and provide comments at a Zoning Board public hearing on this Variance Application. Mr. Ivan Quichocho is requesting to construct additional parking stalls for the TSL building. This property is located at Garapan Beach Road and Kadena Di Amor Street. The applicants would construct two new parking aisles on the east and west sides of Bouganvilla Avenue. The applicant will also pave this section of Bouganvilla Avenue and use it as their driveway. This site is zoned as "Tourist Resort".

Date: October 12, 2010 (Tuesday)
Time: 6:00 pm
Place: Zoning Office, 2nd Floor,
Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

Above application may be viewed at the Zoning Office, 2nd Floor, Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan. Comments on the projects may be submitted orally or in writing at the public hearing. Written comments may also be submitted in writing to the Zoning Office no later than 4:30 pm, October 12, 2010. Written comments may be submitted via e-mail to staff@zoning.gov.mp, via US mail to Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950, or delivered to the Zoning Office, 2nd floor, Joeten Building, DanDan, Saipan.

For questions or access to materials to be considered at the public hearing, or if you require assistance, please contact Douglas Wyatt, at 234-9661. This notice is provided pursuant to Public Law 6-32, as amended (2 CMC 7201, et seq. & Division 3 of Title 10 CMC).

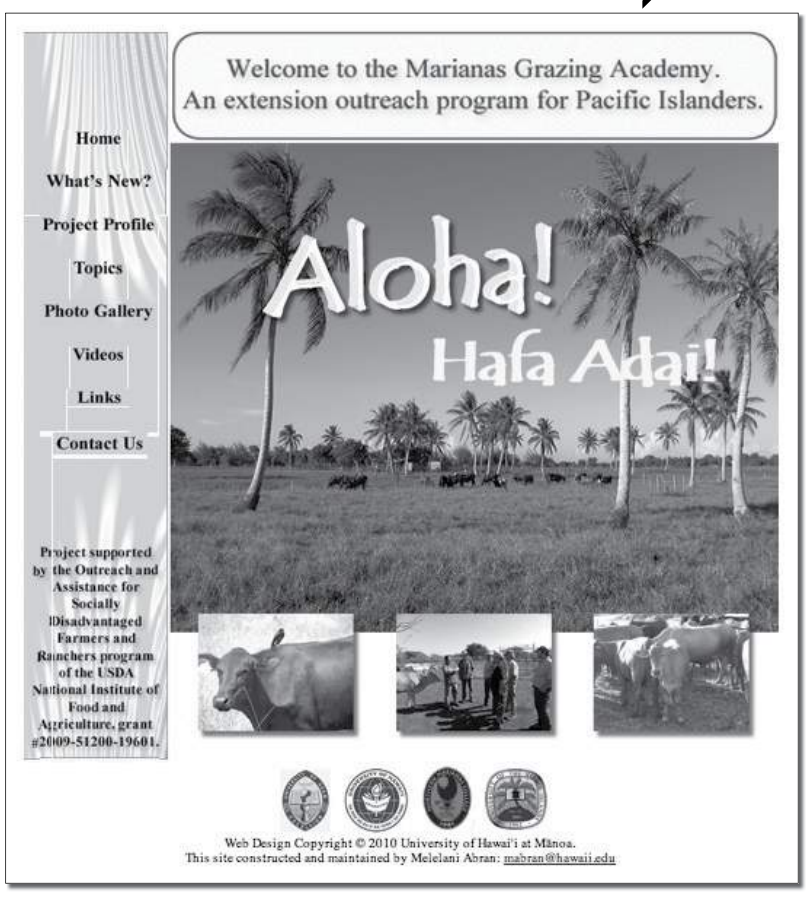
/s/ Herminia M. Fusco, Board Chair

New website for farmers, ranchers

The Northern Marianas College Cooperative Research, Extension and Education Service, a partner institution with the Marianas Grazing Academy program, has recently launched a website that will provide local ranchers easy access to information on tropical ruminant livestock and the MGA program.

The MGA program website, www.marianasgrazingacademy.org, was developed to provide and enhance the accessibility of tropical ruminant livestock information and resources for local ranchers with focus on MGA trainings and activities in the CNMI and Guam.

The MGA program was developed as a three-year project by University of Hawaii's College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources Beef Initiative Group, in collaboration with NMC-CREES, the University of the Virgin Islands, and the University of Guam.


Welcome to the Marianas Grazing Academy.
An extension outreach program for Pacific Islanders.
Home
What's New?
Project Profile
Topics
Photo Gallery
Videos
Links
Contact Us
Aloha!
Hafa Adai!
Project supported by the Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers program of the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture, grant #2009-51200-19601.
Web Design Copyright © 2010 University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.
This site constructed and maintained by Melelani Abran: mabran@hawaii.edu

NMC

Homepage of the recently launched website of the Marianas Grazing Academy, www.marianasgrazingacademy.org.

The program aims to build local agricultural capacity by educating farmers and ranchers on various ways to increase the economic viability of their products. This is achieved through a series of workshops, as well as assistance and guidance in the planning and development of projects aimed to improve and enhance the local grazing industry.

Through the newly launched website, local ranchers can view all MGA training publications, such as the *Marianas Grazing Academy Resource Manual* and presentations over various grazing related topics, such as pasture management, mobile slaughterhouse facilities, animal health, and livestock production. Other resources available are photos and links to other helpful websites.

The website also provides information on the project that led to the creation of the program, which includes goals and objectives, and information on project team members, Island Advisory Council members, and other contributing institutions.

The project is supported by the Outreach Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged Farmers and Ranchers program of the United States Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (Grant #2009-51200-19601).

For additional information on the MGA program, contact Dr. Allan Sabaldica at 433-2576 and Lawrence Duponcheel at 433-0639 at the NMC Tinian Instructional Site. ***(NMC)***

ON THE NET

http://www.marianasgrazingacademy.org

Can you identify

THE NMI Council for the Humanities, in collaboration with the *Saipan Tribune*, is running a series of photographs in this section every Tuesday and is inviting the public to identify the persons or places featured in this section.

If you can identify the persons or places in the picture, please contact the NMI Council for the Humanities by telephone (235-4785), via email (photo@nmihumanities.org) or by visiting the Council's office located in Springs Plaza, Gualo Rai. These images are from the Council's Historic Photograph Database which is currently being developed to help document the history and cultures of the CNMI.

Last week's photo was identified as Merced Tenorio Torres and Donicio Camacho Torres. The photo was identified by Pete Igitol, Bell Guerrero, Anna Sakisat, Chong Torres, Lillian Camacho, William Camacho, Pat Camacho, Diane R. Domingo, Pete Duenas, Angie M. Villagomez, Vicky I. Benavente, Vicky Maratita, Josephine P. Tenorio, Jesus Sablan Sanchez, Vicky Camacho, Mae Salas, Marvin Pangelinan, Edward C. Cabrera, Jesus T. Attao, MaryAnn Kileleman, Vicky T. Deleon Guerrero, Korang Lieto Agulto, Dimas Omar, Linda C. Pangelinan, Ben Tenorio, Lita Gambol, Bernie Cabrera, Senator Pete Reyes, and Jose Sanchez.

2010 Assistive Technology Fair on Wednesday at ARC

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI Council on Developmental Disabilities, in partnership with the CNMI Assistive Technology Program, will be hosting the 2010 Assistive Technology Fair on Wednesday, Sept. 29.

The fair is an annual event that will be held at the Taga Room of Aqua Resort Club from 9am to 4pm.

The 2010 Assistive Technology Fair will go by the theme "Funding sources for Assistive Technology and/or Services."

"The 2010 Assistive Technology Fair is important especially for people with disabilities and those who take care of people with disabilities," said Assistive Technology Coordinator Christie L. Sablan.

Sablan told *Saipan Tribune* that the fair will feature various presenters that will talk about on how to help fund assistive technology.

Sablan said there will be a presentation about the CNMI Trankilu Program, a loan program that will help people with disabilities acquire assistive technology devices and services. A representative will be available to answer questions and distribute applications.

There will also be presentations from the Center for Living Independently in the CNMI, Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, Public School System, Northern Marianas Protection Advocacy, and the Northern Marianas College.

Sablan said the 2010 Assistive Technology Fair will also feature exhibitors such as the Health Care Specialties, Marianas Medical Supplies, and other vendors that will showcase assistive technology equipment and items.

According to Sablan, a lot of people have already signed up for the fair, including students, teachers, and family members of people with disabilities.

For more information, call Christie Sablan at 664-7003, Ray Diaz at 664-7001 or Lillian Ada at 664-7002.

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 28, 1999

Amendment in FTZ bill sought

The Commonwealth Ports Authority has asked the House Committee on Commerce to delete a provision in the proposed Free Trade Zone which imposes minimum rental charge to allow the FTZ Authority and CPA negotiate a fair and reasonable rate. If this is not acceptable, CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas proposed that the minimum rental should be not less than 50 percent of the current rate being assessed by the ports authority to its ground tenants. Salas wrote to Rep. Oscar M. Babauta, chairman of the committee, to lobby for the inclusion of certain provisions in the Free Trade Zone Act. In seeking amendments to the FTZ measure, Salas said this would help the CNMI cope with the demand for a well-developed airport system and enhance the island's aviation safety.

Frito-Lay asks court to retain protective order

Frito-Lay Enterprises, Inc., which manufactures potato chips, asked Federal Judge Alex Munson yesterday to allow the company to keep its confidential trade secrets by retaining the court's protective order. Frito-Lay was sued by a Saipan resident, Edward P. Comport, who claimed he found a fried roach inside his Frito-Lay bag. Comport's attorney, Timothy Skinner, has asked the federal court to lift the protective order and stop Frito-Lay from stamping the label "confidential" on all the documents it files with the court. Timothy Farrell, attorney for Frito-Lay, maintained there are information and details about the company which cannot be made public.

Sept. 28, 2000

Pacific island health meeting opens on Tinian

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday urged Pacific island health ministers and lawmakers to work together in focusing investments in areas such as education, healthy working conditions, environmental sanitation and safe water supply. While government leaders are responsible in providing adequate budget for health care, Mr. Tenorio said health officials must in turn make sure that health programs reach each member of the community, Speaking before members of the Pacific Island Health Officers Association, the governor said he believes that prevention must continue to be the main agenda in health care programs. "We know that investment in the long-term public health prevention programs will go beyond the short-term budgetary gains in diverting money elsewhere," he said.

Teno leads campaign against breast cancer

Noting that CNMI women are at risk, Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday signed proclamation declaring October as "Breast Cancer Awareness Month" on the islands. This is in conjunction with a nationwide campaign aimed at educating women about the importance of early detection of breast cancer. This year marks 15 years of the National Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Because of the campaign, mammography use has substantially increased and breast cancer death rates have declined over the past few years, according to officials. To kick off the campaign in the Commonwealth, a walkathon will be held this Saturday, Sept. 30, from 6 to 10 a.m. starting at Kilili Beach. The governor called on island residents to participate in the event to raise awareness here.

Sept. 28, 2001

Borja: Mutual ties with Washington

Democratic gubernatorial candidate Jesse Borja has emphasized the need for a mutual and cooperative relationship with the US government. "The CNMI's association with the United States should be a mutually beneficial and cooperative relationship. The United States offers the umbrella of American world power and unrivaled economic and political stability while the CNMI offers a lucrative and strategic frontier in Asia." said Borja. He added that the CNMI must encourage a partnership with the Unites States. "We in the CNMI need to show we are focused on growing and developing our island community. At the same time, we need to show that we are united and serious about reaffirming our relationship with the United States under the Covenant."

$27M in revenue shortfall feared

Best estimates made by the Department of Finance on the money it expects to collect in Fiscal Year 2002 place the expected revenue amount at only $206 million-$27 million short of the $233 million the government had originally submitted as its budget for the incoming fiscal year. "I met with the finance department just yesterday and it appears that we might only be able to make $206 million [in the new fiscal year]," Gov. Pedro P. Tendorio told reporters yesterday morning. This came even as the Senate was deliberating on the proposed $233-million Fiscal Year 2002 budget at the Northern Marianas College on Tinian. Expectations were high that the Senate would pass the bill yesterday. As of press time, the Senate remains in session.

Judiciary: Flexibility key to determining 'essential' services

CNMI Supreme Court Chief Justice Miguel S. Demapan and the CNMI Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja, on behalf of the CNMI Judicial Council, submitted correspondence to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, the Senate and House of Representative, and other government leaders providing guidance with respect to the Judiciary's determination of which judicial services must remain available in the event of a government shutdown.

Determining which are essential services, they wrote, is complicated by the collaborative efforts of multiple government agencies, including the Judiciary. Secondly, they stated the definition of essential services will be impacted by the length of the shutdown.

In the letter to the governor and government leaders, Demapan and Naraja stated, referring to the Attorney General and Public Defenders offices, and departments of Public Safety and Corrections, "The existence of [the] codependent relationship among these departments obscured a precise determination of essential services by the Judicial Council at this time because the extent of services provided by these other agencies during a shutdown has yet to be determined."

Secondly, Demapan and Naraja explained the length of the shutdown will be determining as to "what *is* and *is not* essential within the Judiciary… if the shutdown lasts for only one business day, then plausibly, none of the services of the courthouse would be essential. However, if the shutdown lasts for one week, many employees would have to report to work at one time or another during that week to ensure that constitutional protections are afforded to our community."

With citizens and visitors to the Commonwealth depending on the Judiciary to promote their health, safety, and welfare, protect against damage to and destruction of property, and uphold their constitutional rights, some conclusions were drawn.

"Criminal litigation and supervised probation must continue uninterrupted. The protections afforded by family court, particularly temporary restraining orders, must continue uninterrupted."

Civil litigation matters were described as being more complex, however. Temporary injunctions, for example, if unaddressed would cause imminent damage to property, while civil matters affecting the constitutional rights of individuals or requiring the protection of person or property may require immediate attention. It is impossible to predict the frequency and number of these cases.

Partly because of the types of complications and uncertainties discussed in their letter it was noted, as a point of reference, that the federal judiciary remained open and fully functioning during the shutdown of the federal government in 1995.

"Judicial services were deemed essential services during prior federal government shutdowns and must be designated as essential during any CNMI government shutdown," Demapan and Naraja asserted.

In conclusion, they declared the need for discretion and flexibility was paramount: "The inability to foresee, predict, or determine the justice needs of the community makes any preemptive, specific determinations of essential services arbitrary. Thus, the Judiciary requires flexibility in determining what, if any, of its services are non-essential based in part on the length of the shutdown and the functions deemed essential within other branches of the government, such as services provided by DPS and the OAG… Allowing the Judiciary discretion to determine what services must be provided during a government shutdown is the only way to guarantee that those services which protect the safety, health, welfare, and property of the people of the Commonwealth will remain readily available."

The complete text of Justice Demapan and Judge Naraja correspondence can be seen on the CNMI Judiciary's website: http://www.justice.gov.mp/. ***(PR)***

NEW ASNMC OFFICERS

Northern Marianas College interim president Lorraine Cabrera, second from right, and dean of Student Services Leo Pangelinan, far right, pose for a group photo with the newly elected Associated Students of NMC officers. From left are ASNMC president Antonio Tiples, vice president Maria "Mary" Calilong, and treasurer Ian Carr. The new ASNMC officers were officially sworn in during an investiture ceremony held yesterday, Sept. 27, 2010, in Room D-1. Not pictured in this photo is secretary Ki Young Kim.

NMC

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

NMPASI office closed this afternoon

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc., or NMPASI, will be close today, Sept. 28, 2010, from 2pm to 5pm. Business will resume the following day. ***(PR)***

Veterans Day committee meeting today

November 11, 2010, Veterans Day, is the day to pay tribute and thank all who served and are serving today in the U.S. Armed Forces. The Veterans Day committee will plan and execute this years Veterans Day ceremony. If you are interested in being part of this year's Veterans Day committee, we will begin to meet every Tuesday at 9am starting today, Sept. 28, 2010, at the Office of the Military and Veterans Affairs on Capital Hill building 1364. Everyone is encouraged and invited to attend. For any questions, call 664-2650. ***(PR)***

CCA board convenes today, Sept. 28

The Commonwealth Cancer Association board of directors will be convening its regular monthly meeting today, Sept. 28, 2010, at the Department of Public Health, Secretary's Conference Room, starting at 3pm. The meeting agenda will include discussion of CCA's 2009 annual report publication, CCA's banking options, the proposed Memorandum of Understanding for the Comprehensive Cancer Control Coalition, reports from the board committees and program manager, the upcoming Pinktober Concert at Hard Rock Cafe and other Breast Cancer Awareness Month activities, and a proposed motorcycle raffle fundraiser gala event. The public is invited and encouraged to attend. For more information, contact CCA at 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org. ***(CCA)***

Cancer survivors' support meeting tomorrow

All cancer survivors are invited to attend the survivor support meeting scheduled for Wednesday,Sept. 29, 2010, at the Hyatt Chamolinian Room starting at 5:30pm. This month's survivor support meeting will feature a presentation by registered dietician Hee Jae Lee, titled "Nutrition and the Cancer Survivor." Lee will be discussing nutrition guidelines for cancer prevention and survivorship from the American Institute for Cancer Research, and ways to apply those guidelines in the islands using locally available foods. For more information or to RSVP, call the Commonwealth Cancer Association at 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org, or contact the DPH Comprehensive Cancer Control Program at 236-8728. ***(CCA)***

NMC offices closed on Friday, Oct. 1, 2010

As part of the Northern Marianas College's accreditation and planning efforts, all NMC employees will be participating in the 2010 NMC Planning Summit on Friday, Oct. 1, 2010. As such, all classes scheduled for this day have been canceled. All NMC offices will also be closed on this day. Classes will resume and offices will reopen on Monday, Oct. 4, 2010 (classes and other activities scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 3, and Sunday, Oct. 4, will proceed as scheduled). ***(NMC)***

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
PO BOX 501370
SAIPAN, MP 96950

Head Start Policy Council
Special Meeting
Agenda

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, the Head Start Policy Council hereby gives notice that it will have a special meeting on September 29, 2010 (Friday) from 1:30pm-2:30pm, Head Start Main Office, Capitol Hill, Saipan.

I. Preliminary Matters
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Quorum
4. Adoption of Agenda

II. Public Comments

III. New Business
1. Action Item:
   a. Approval of Recommendation for Hire

IV. Executive Session

V. Adjournment

Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)7, the Council may vote to meet in Executive Session. Public Comments are limited to 15 minutes; therefore comments are limited to 3 minutes each.

This meeting is open to the public, interested individuals are welcome to attend. Any person(s) requiring special accommodations may contact Ms. Candace Q. Celis at 664-3761.

/s/ Mr. Gene Weaver
Chairperson

IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1993 AND IN THE MATTER OF HIH CASUALTY AND GENERAL INSURANCE (N.Z.) LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION) AND FAI (NZ) GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)

FURTHER AND FINAL CALL FOR CLAIMS BY CREDITORS IN THE LIQUIDATION OF **HIH CASUALTY AND GENERAL INSURANCE (N.Z.) LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)** ("HIHC&G") AND **FAI (NZ) GENERAL INSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED (IN LIQUIDATION)** ("FAINZ")

KERRYN MARK DOWNEY and **WILLIAM GUY BLACK**, the Liquidators of each of FAINZ and HIHC&G (together, the Companies, and each a Company), hereby fix 1 March 2011 as the day on or before which the creditors of FAINZ and HIHC&G (respectively) are to make their claims in the liquidations of FAINZ and HIHC&G (as the case may be) and to establish any priority which their claims may have under section 312 of the Companies Act 1993.

If a creditor of FAINZ or HIHC&G (as the case may be) does not make a claim on or before 1 March 2011, the Liquidators of the relevant Company may exclude the creditor from the benefit of any distribution made to the creditors of that Company or to other entitled persons before the creditor has made his or her claim.

If a creditor of FAINZ or HIHC&G (as the case may be) fails to establish any priority that his or her claim may have on or before 1 March 2011, the creditor may be excluded from objecting to any distribution made in respect of that Company before the priority of his or her claim is established.

Please note that, if a creditor of FAINZ or HIHC&G wishes to make a claim in respect of a contingent liability or otherwise for an unliquidated amount, they are to the best of their ability to value the amount of their claim and to provide the best available evidence in support of the valuation and the claim. Claim forms in respect of each of FAINZ and HIHC&G may be obtained from the Liquidators (details below).

In respect of claims received by the Liquidators on or before 1 March 2011, the Liquidators may:

(a) admit the claim (in whole or in part);

(b) reject the claim (in whole or in part); or

(c) where a claim (or part of a claim) is for an amount which is not certain, make an estimate of the amount of the claim or refer the matter to the High Court for a decision on the amount of the claim.

The Liquidators have, with the approval of the High Court, established a process to deal with the estimation of claims, where necessary. That process will be explained in more detail to claimants to whom that process will apply.

DATED at Auckland this 28th day of September 2010

Kerryn Mark Downey
Joint and Several Liquidator

Address of Liquidators:
c/- McGrathNicol
Level 17
34 Shortland Street
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

Telephone: +64 9 926 5117
Facsimile: +64 9 366 4656
E-mail: mlens@mcnp.co.nz

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XX, Issue No. 231

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950

Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
Mark Rabago ASSOCIATE EDITOR

MEMBER
The Associated Press Pacific Islands News Association

Immigrant children deserve a chance

By JOSE MIGUEL LEYVA
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE INFORMATION SERVICES

Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has been right to press for the passing of the DREAM (Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors) Act. And he should keep at it.

On Tuesday, the Senate voted to block discussion of the National Defense Authorization Act, which included a provision to outlaw the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, as well as one to enact the DREAM Act.

Reid should force those senators voting no to do so time and again until they're faced with withdrawing funding from the Pentagon or doing the right thing for gays and lesbians and for immigrant students.

The DREAM Act would enable young people who came into the United States as children without proper documents to legalize their status and to prove themselves. It would give them a six-year temporary residency, during which they could choose to either go to college and obtain a degree or serve at least two years in military services.

It would help out our struggling military services by opening up a new pool of recruits. It would help the government by bringing contributing members of society out of the dark and into fully documented status. Most of all, it would help the "minors" named in the Act itself, by giving them the opportunity to make something of themselves.

The DREAM Act is not amnesty.

That implies that the children and young adults who fall under its purview are criminals, instead of victims of circumstance. They didn't make the decision to enter the United States without the proper documents, and minors can't legitimately be held responsible for decisions their parents made. And since they have lived their lives in the United States, many of them would be more out of place in the countries of their birth than they are here.

This should easily be one of the least controversial proposals in immigration reform today. But some Republican senators object to it.

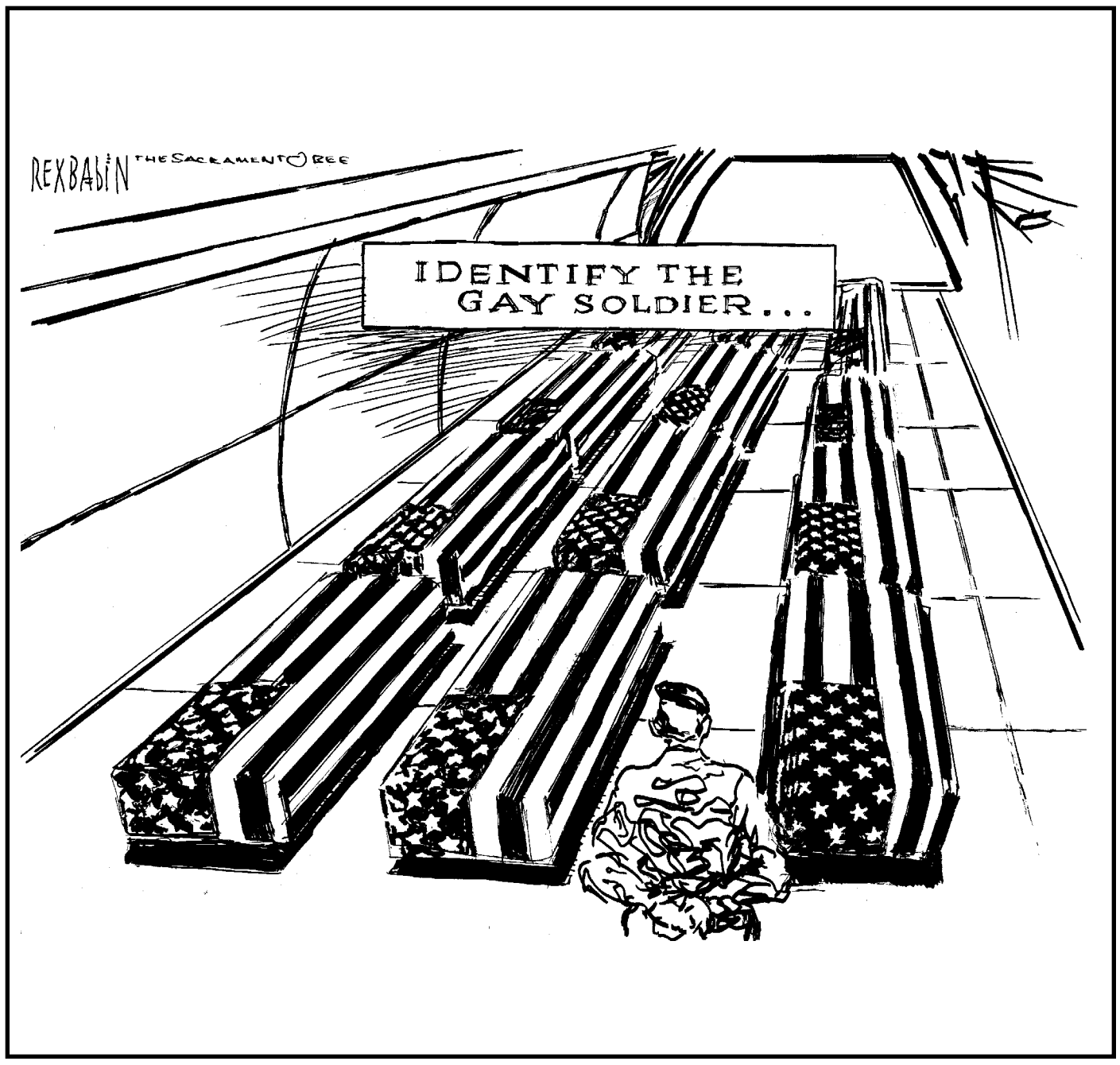
Why? Because they want to draw support from their conservative constituents who are anti-immigrant and who want to make this an issue of "us versus them." But the "them" are children who have grown up here. They are your daughter's best friend, your nephew's first date, your grandchild's first slumber party pal.

The political grandstanding by opponents of this legislation is most obvious when looking at the inconsistent words and actions of Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who cosponsored the DREAM Act not just once, but in three separate years: 2003, 2005, and, most recently, in 2007. Now he's against it.

That kind of flip-flopping is disgraceful.

We need to give all our young people a chance. And that means allowing immigrant children to join in an America that has too long kept them in the shadows.

Jose Miguel Leyva is a freelance writer and novelist living in El Paso, Texas. He can be reached at pmproj@progressive.org.



I'm rich; tax me more

By GARRETT GRUENER
LOS ANGELES TIMES

I'm a venture capitalist and an entrepreneur. Over the past three decades, I've made both good and bad investments. I've created successful companies and ones that didn't do so well. Overall, I'm proud that my investments have created jobs and led to some interesting innovations. And I've done well financially; I'm one of the fortunate few who are in the top echelon of American earners.

For nearly the last decade, I've paid income taxes at the lowest rates of my professional career. Before that, I paid at higher rates. And if you want the simple, honest truth, from my perspective as an entrepreneur, the fluctuation didn't affect what I did with my money. None of my investments has ever been motivated by the rate at which I would have to pay personal income tax.

As history demonstrates, modest changes in the tax rate for wealthy taxpayers don't make much of a difference if the goal is to build new companies, drive technological development and stimulate new industries. Almost a decade ago, President George W. Bush and his Republican colleagues in Congress pushed through a massive reduction in marginal tax rates, a reduction that benefitted the wealthy far more than other taxpayers.

We were told the cuts would accelerate business growth and create jobs. Instead, we got nearly a decade of anemic job growth, stagnating wages, declining incomes and high inequality.

The supply-side, trickle-down economic policies of the last decade benefitted people like me, but the wealth didn't trickle down. So while we did quite well, people who live from paycheck to paycheck didn't.

When inequality gets too far out of balance, as it did over the course of the last decade, the wealthy end up saving too much while members of the middle class can't afford to spend much unless they borrow excessively. Eventually, the economy stalls for lack of demand, and we see the kind of deflationary spiral we find ourselves in now. I believe it is no coincidence that the two highest peaks in American income inequality came in 1929 and 2008, and that the following years were marked by low economic activity and significant unemployment.

What American businesspeople know, and have known since Henry Ford insisted that his employees be able to afford to buy the cars they made, is that a thriving economy doesn't just need investors; it needs people who can buy the goods and services businesses create. For the overall economy to do well, everyday Americans have to do well.

Now that the Bush tax cuts are about to expire, Republicans are again arguing that taxes should remain low for the wealthy. The idea is that this will spur people like me to put more capital to work and start more ventures, which will create new jobs, power the economy and ultimately produce more tax revenues. It's a beguiling theory, but it's one that hasn't worked before and won't work now.

Instead, Congress should let the Bush tax cuts expire for the wealthiest Americans and use the additional tax revenues that are generated to invest in infrastructure and research. "Invest" is the right word. Putting money into infrastructure—such as roads, bridges, broadband, the smart grid and public transit—as well as carefully chosen research initiatives provides a foundation for future growth. As important, it puts funds in the hands of those who will spend them, generating demand that will pull us out of our economic crisis and toward a new cycle of growth.

No one particularly enjoys paying taxes, but one lesson we should have learned by now is that for the good of the country, we need to tax people like me more. At a minimum, we need to return to the tax rates of the Clinton era, when the economy performed far better. Simply taxing the wealthiest 2 percent of Americans at the same rates they were taxed before the Bush tax cuts could reduce the national deficit by $700 billion over the next 10 years. Remember, paying slightly more in personal income taxes won't change my investment choices at all, and I don't think a higher tax rate will change the investment decisions of most other high earners.

What will change my investment decisions is if I see an economy doing better, one in which there is demand for the goods and services my investments produce. I am far more likely to invest if I see a country laying the foundation for future growth. In order to get there, we first need to let the Bush-era tax cuts for the upper 2 percent lapse. It is time to tax me more.

Garrett Gruener is the founder of Ask.com, chief executive of Nanomix, the co-founder and director of the venture capital firm Alta Partners and a member of the advisory board at NDN, a center-left think tank in Washington.

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Pedagogy of transformation

By JAIME VERGARA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune*'s Opinion Section.*

I began to appreciate that authentic truth is never simple and that any version of truth handed down from on high—whether by presidents, prime ministers, or archbishops—is inherently suspect. The powerful reveal truth only to the extent that it suits them. Even then, the truths to which they testify come wrapped in a nearly invisible filament of dissembling, deception, and duplicity. The exercise of power necessarily involves manipulation and is antithetical to candor.

The quote is from Andrew Bacevich, professor of history and international relations at Boston University, a West Point graduate and retired career officer of the U.S. Army whose son who followed in his footsteps, was a casualty in the Iraq War in 2007. Hardly a bona fide ranting and raving liberal, he came to a turning at 40 years of age while experiencing the collapse of Eastern Europe as a hegemony vis-à-vis the United States and NATO. He relates this radical broadening of perspective in an essay, *The Unmaking of a Company Man,* shortly after the release of his new book, *Washington Rules: America's Path to Permanent War.*

Forty years earlier, Brazilian educator Paulo Freire wrote *Pedagogy of the Oppressed,* a classic little essay that has a broader influence than on the rural poor of South America who were the subject of his reflections. The books' four chapters deal with, a) the vocation of the oppressed in the revolutionary context of the class conflict between the oppressed and the oppressor, b) the oppressor's banking concept of education where there is encyclopedic accumulation of inert facts as compared to the necessary problem-solving drive of the oppressed, c) the educational programs among South American rural poor, d) the didactic vs. dialogical practices where the former spoon feeds wisdom while the later favors discovery of reality through critical thought and free communication.

Freire became Secretary of Education of Sao Paulo but the relevance of his thoughts and the continuing work of the Institute that bears his name are enormous. By Bacevich's account, we get the impression that Freire's dialogical pedagogy was not widely practiced in the training of officers of the uniformed services.

We've been commenting on our educational program at PSS while waiting out this summer if our HQT will get us back to one of the classrooms. It didn't. That will not stop us, however, from dealing with generic pedagogy because it is just as relevant to PSS as it is to NMTI, NMC, the private schools, and the informal processes of learning that goes about in our daily island life, in our offices, businesses, churches, and at home. We taught a self-directed independent study on "Classroom Management and Teaching Strategies" before the end of the school year to certify PSS teachers, and I followed the method of discovery to guided the course. I, too, facilitated my own learning.

Freire insists that education is not a subject (teacher) to object (learner) proposition. It is an I-Thou relationship, a subject-to-subject interchange moderated by the experience of both. Teachers learn and learners teach, and vice versa. Learning occurs not by prescription but through discovery. Teachers do not to impose their understanding on the learner, but rather they facilitate the learner's reflection on and dialogue with the world and other people, arriving at the action necessary to be response-able to the world and society. This dialogue is inquisitive, not dogmatic; flexible, not rigid; and those who participate in it are inquirers, not ideologues. The "eureka" of liberation is valued over the assessment of obedience!

Bacevich's discipline leads him to think that the triune demands for cheap oil (from OPEC), cheap credit (Federal Reserve), and cheap manufactured products (China and the Third World) have characterized the American Empire and the only way to sustain this lifestyle is to be permanently at war with someone somewhere. This is congruent to the economic theory that emerged from the marriage of Malthus' conviction that population growth by geometric progression critically exceeds increase in food production, and Darwin's survival of the fittest (racially interpreted at the time to refer to the Aryan race). Growth in productivity measures the wealth of a people, a tenet of both democratic and socialist capitalism.

It has now become clear that living according to the model of the survival of the fittest is driving the specie into extinction while genetics actually tends toward the law of cooperation for survival. It is in relationship each to another, not in domination, that we shall save ourselves from oblivion. Thus, nature must now be figured as an economic capital, and happiness/fulfillment, meaning and significance, an object of assessment of wealth.

The authority of authenticity, the practice of candor, the openness of inquiry—these are the marks of effective pedagogy in our time. In sunny Marianas, we have all the light we need, on land and in the waters, to see stark but emancipating truth with the naked eye, if we dare do so. That method does not come easy, nor is it a gift of pedigree or social class. It is learned. It's a pedagogy that transforms and liberates. Pedagogues, on your march, get set, go!

Letters to the Editor

Adjust pay scales

Many people who are working in government services would realize sleepless nights as Oct. 1 lurches to reality in just a few days. It is unbearable and, believe me, the people who are impacted most would never forget tomorrow. Each day that the Legislature fails to make good on the constitutional mandate to balance the budget, more and more people in the CNMI are prone to pessimistic ruminations over the inevitable decay of civic virtue.

Quarreling of factional elites of members of the Legislature is reaching its end of the line. The sovereign of these islands are running out of patience and steam just watching that day by day nothing is taking shape as a resolve to the mess of a balanced budget. We could no longer sustain borrowing the future wealth of ascendant generations as a source of funding for the current needs of government operations. Balanced budget means paying for current outlays with current resources. We could no longer plug the big holes of the CNMI's burdensome public debts to keep afloat present needs. Is the sky suddenly falling that none of the professional politicians in the Legislature who have been legislating for years could see where we are heading without a balanced budget? Is it now the civic virtue of the Legislature that the past is beyond explanation? The future is beyond prediction? Or, perhaps also, the future is beyond preparation or bother?

We are dealing with one aspect of the balanced budget. The cost of labor, or personnel. All along the government was shutting down, at least partially, every time the staggered unpaid day off was implemented. Now, we are toying with solutions that will take away paid holidays and one workday each work week. Well, we do not have to shut down any government office at all. No one should be removed from performing services to the public. If we know exactly what the total outlays for personnel and benefits for the fiscal year, that will be the starting point. Now, the predictive part, if we need to reduce personnel cost by, for instance 15 percent of total personnel costs, we multiply X times the target percentage. This figure then should be translated into the pay scale structure. In the end, the OPM should be tasked to perform the arithmetic and relieve those in the Finance Department as that office appears to be strung up in the political game of professional politicians in the Legislature. Now if the OPM is viewed as a political entity, then procure the services of an independent professional that will perform the arithmetic and amendment to the pay scale structure.

Pay or compensation fix in the CNMI government is unexplained or unmeasured by any principled job evaluation scheme and justification. In other words, the compensation or pay practices in the CNMI government were arbitrarily set or designed, and possibly flawed by comparison to common internal and external job evaluation practices found in industries or government sectors. These conditions would include all autonomous jurisdictions and line agencies under the OPM umbrella's pay practices. There was no rhyme and good reasons that one could ascertain whether each job's commensurate pay assignment was the result of a proper measure of actual value to type of knowledge, know-how and accountability, and market rate comparability within the CNMI labor pool. In a nutshell, no one knows how and what factors played in the assignment of pay to jobs in the CNMI government. This means that the CNMI government has leveraged opportunity at this point to make adjustment to the pay scale according to what it needs to achieve for the balanced budget resolve. It is actually a simple solution, and the toying with a shutdown of government operations should have been prevented even years ago. I just could not understand why the factional elites in the CNMI government had to even tinker with the idea of employee furlough. It is a bad idea, when all that needs to be implemented is adjust the pay scale structure as established by law.

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa, Saipan

Misleading

This is in response to Gregorio Cruz's letter to the editor (Just a dream, *Saipan Tribune,* Sept. 25, 2010), about the Republicans in Congress moving to block the so-called Dream Act of 2010.

It was unfortunate for the Republicans to obstruct the future of individuals who would benefit from this legislation. If only you had the opportunity to live next to these individuals and go to school with them, you would understand the human factors. These individuals are the most productive and intelligent and they have the will to make it in the United States. I had a classmate, an illegal alien, at Fresno State University, where he had to work three jobs to finance his education because he was not eligible to get any financial aid from the U.S. government. He is a prime example of Americana: migrated to the United States, worked hard on his education and he became successful in his life. He went on to law school and is now practicing law in the State of California.

My point is, blocking such legislation prevents productive individuals like him from contributing to our society. Individuals like my former classmate pay taxes, so our people can be afforded food stamps, Medicare and other kinds of social programs. From a business standpoint, such action by the Republicans prevents millions of dollars in the form of taxes from being collected from these productive individuals. You may call it potential revenue lost.

As for your statement that amnesty, outright citizenship, or permanent residency will not materialize on U.S. soil, including the CNMI, it is evident that you inherited the crab mentality and you have not done your research. For decades, millions of nonimmigrant had been afforded amnesty in the United States. Also, many individuals who helped the U.S. government during the Vietnam War and the secret war in Laos (Hmong) were allowed to migrate (the Refugee Act of 1980) to the United States for humanitarian reasons. U.S. Public Law 97-271 granted long term status to over 20,000 nonimmigrant workers in the U.S. Virgin Islands and they were granted opportunities to apply for U.S. permanent residence (1982). Your assumption that our productive brothers and sisters in the CNMI would not be granted status in the United States is outright misleading.

As for your statement about Tony Babauta, first of all, we should nourish Mr. Babauta's big accomplishment. Working for the federal government, he is the first to be appointed undersecretary of the Department of Interior from the Marianas and we should be grateful that we have someone representing us at Interior from our islands.

Also, I disagree with your view that it is nothing but a dream. The United States of America was conceived from a dream, the telephone was invented from a dream, the airplane was invented from a dream, jet engines were invented from a dream, motor vehicles were invented from a dream, men landed on the moon from a dream, and the United States of America became a world superpower from a dream. I would not have bypassed my bachelor's program from my associate of arts to my master's program without dreaming that one day I will give back to our society. My older sister would have not finished her studies in Doctor of Psychology without dreaming about becoming a doctor. Our advancement in our society would had not been where we are at if no one dreamt of accomplishing anything in their lives. A dream is the most powerful motivator in our world.

You continuously degrade the individuals that are trying to help us. I foresee that your style would backfire on our society. Twice a month, we drive across the United States and we pass through ghost towns. In ghost towns, you only see dilapidated buildings and no humans in sight. If we don't nurture our contract workers, our islands would succumb to such predicament. I admire your persistence but we need to work together for the betterment of our islands.

Segundo Castro
Stockton, CA

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers and thunderstorms. East winds around 10 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

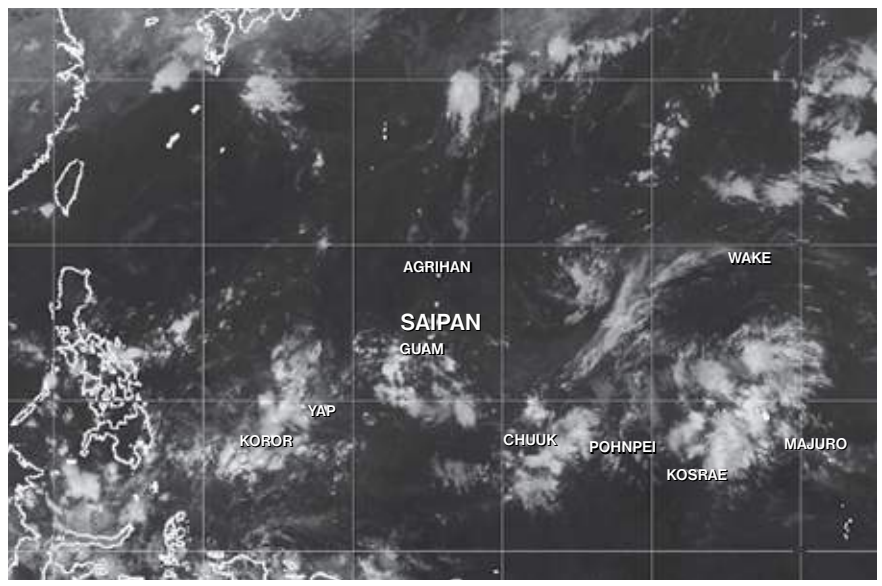
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲85	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲86	▼77
Yap	Showers	▲87	▼77
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Pohnpei	Showers	▲87	▼74
Kosrae	Mostly Sunny	▲90	▼75
Majuro	Showers	▲86	▼75

Around The Globe

Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼54
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼45
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲87	▼70
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	▲84	▼74
London	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼53
Los Angeles	Mostly Sunny	▲93	▼63
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼77
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲58	▼43
Miami	Thundershowers	▲84	▼78
New York	Thunderstorms	▲76	▼64
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼63
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼48
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲72	▼59
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲76	▼56
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲80	▼56
San Francisco	Sunny	▲83	▼61
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	▲68	▼49
Tokyo	Showers	▲77	▼66
Washington, DC	Showers	▲78	▼63

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

An upper-level low is centered south of Minami Torishima at 20N154E. Isolated thunderstorms are present near the low within 110 miles of a line from 16N152E to 19N158E. A surface trough extends northward from 5N139E through a weak circulation centered just northeast of Yap at 11N139E to 21N140E and turns northeastward to beyond 25N at 142E. Widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring near the trough over Koror with 90 miles of a line from 5N134E to 10N137E. Scattered showers are found east of Iwo To island or north of a line from 23N145E to 23N151E. Converging winds east of the circulation are causing widely scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Guam but just north of Yap within 150 miles of a line from 13N137E to 11N150E. Another weak circulation is centered just northeast of Chuuk at 9N153E. Scattered showers are seen in the vicinity of this feature just south and east of Chuuk within 80 miles of a line from 5N145E to 7N154E to 11N154E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over Pohnpei and the Marshall islands between 6N and 12N from 156E to 173E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

4:23 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.0 Feet
11:10 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
4:36 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.1 Feet
9:43 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Wednesday	6:07 AM	6:08 PM
Thursday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM
Friday	6:07 AM	6:07 PM
Saturday	6:07 AM	6:06 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	9:22 PM	9:50 AM
Wednesday	10:15 PM	10:45 AM
Thursday	11:12 PM	11:41 AM
Friday		12:35 PM
Saturday	12:11 AM	1:28 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

DEPARTURES

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM

C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUAM

C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:00am	8:35am	Daily
DL297	3:20pm	5:55pm	Daily
DL289	4:35pm	7:10pm	Daily

SAIPAN-NAGOYA

DL640	7:40am	10:20am	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ604	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:20am	Daily via KIX
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:00am	10:10pm	Daily via NRT
DL640/629	7:40am	10:35pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG

OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/909	3:05pm	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM

ARRIVALS

GUAM-ROTA (ROP)

C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7

GUAM-SAIPAN

C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL290	9:45am	2:20pm	Daily
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:40pm	1:10am+1	Daily

NAGOYA-SAIPAN

DL641	9:10pm	1:40am+1	Daily

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL630/641	6:30am	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 7 via NGO
DL172/288	7:40am	1:10am+1	Daily via NRT
C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3,5 via GUM-Palau
C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM

HONG KONG-SAIPAN

OZ724/605	12:30am	2:30pm	2 ,4 ,6, 7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 113	11:40	11:50	Daily
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

USCIS sets final rule adjusting fees for immigration benefits

The U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services announced Friday a final rule adjusting fees for immigration applications and petitions. The final rule follows a period of public comment on a proposed version of the rule, which USCIS published in the Federal Register on June 11, 2010. After encouraging stakeholders to share their input, USCIS considered all 225 comments received.

The final rule will increase overall fees by a weighted average of about 10 percent but will not increase the fee for the naturalization application. The rule will also reduce fees for six individual applications and petitions and will expand the availability of fee waivers to new categories. The final rule was published in the Federal Register on Sept. 24, and the adjusted fees will go into effect on Nov. 23, 2010.

USCIS is a primarily fee-based organization with about 90 percent of its budget coming from fees paid by applicants and petitioners for immigration benefits. The law requires USCIS to conduct fee reviews every two years to determine whether it is recovering its costs to administer the nation's immigration laws, process applications and provide the infrastructure needed to support those activities. Remaining funds come from appropriations provided annually by Congress. The final fee rule concludes a comprehensive fee review begun in 2009.

Q. What are some of the major features of the 2010 fee rule?

The fee rule will increase the average application and petition fees by approximately 10 percent. In addition, the fee rule:

■ Contains no increase in the naturalization application fee, in recognition of the unique importance of naturalization.

■ Establishes new fees for regional center designation under the Immigrant Investor Pilot Program (EB-5); individuals seeking civil surgeon designation (with an exemption for certain physicians who examine servicemembers, veterans, and their families at U.S. government facilities); and the recovery of the USCIS cost of processing immigrant visas granted by the Department of State.

■ Adjusts fees for the premium processing service to ensure that USCIS can continue to modernize as an efficient and effective organization.

■ Reduces fees for six individual applications and petitions: Petition for Alien Fiancé (Form I-129F); Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (Form I-539); Application to Adjust Status From Temporary To Permanent Resident (Form I-698); Application for Family Unity Benefits (Form I-817); Application for Replacement Naturalization/Citizenship Document (Form N-565); and Application for Travel Document (Form I-131), when filed for Refugee Travel Document.

■ Eliminates two citizenship-related fees for those servicemembers and veterans of the U.S. armed forces who are eligible to file an Application for Naturalization (Form N-400) with no fee: Request for Hearing on a Decision in Naturalization Proceedings (Form N-336) and Application for Certificate of Citizenship (Form N-600).

■ Expands fee-waiver eligibility to certain applicants and petitioners, including individuals seeking to appeal the denial of underlying applications or petitions that required no fee, individuals applying for humanitarian parole with an Application for Travel Document (Form I-131), and individuals with an Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (Form I-539) who are covered under the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008.

Q. Why didn't USCIS increase the naturalization application fee?

A. USCIS has determined that the act of requesting and obtaining U.S. citizenship deserves special consideration given the unique nature of this benefit to the individual applicant, the significant public benefit to the nation and the nation's proud tradition of welcoming new citizens. USCIS believes that holding the naturalization fee at the current level will reinforce these principles, allow more immigrants to fully participate in civic life, and complement other USCIS efforts to promote immigrant integration.

Q. What has changed in the final rule from the proposed rule published in June?

A. USCIS received and considered 225 public comments on the proposed fee rule. The final rule acknowledges the comments received from the public and includes the following changes from the proposed rule:

■ Expands fee-waiver eligibility to certain applicants and petitioners, including individuals seeking to appeal the denial of underlying applications or petitions that required no fee; individuals applying for humanitarian parole with an Application for Travel Document (Form I-131) and individuals with an Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (Form I-539) who are covered under the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008;

■ Reduces the fee that refugees must pay for the Application for Travel Document (Form I-131);

■ Eliminates two citizenship-related fees for those servicemembers and veterans of the U.S. armed forces who are eligible to file an Application for Naturalization (Form N-400) with no fee, specifically: the Request for Hearing on a Decision in Naturalization Proceedings (Form N-336) and the Application for Certificate of Citizenship (Form N-600);

■ Exempts from the new civil surgeon fee certain physicians who examine servicemembers, veterans, and their families at U.S. government facilities;

■ Clarifies that individuals with an Application to Extend/Change Nonimmigrant Status (Form I-539) with "V" nonimmigrant status must submit biometric information and pay the related biometric fee;

■ Clarifies that USCIS will continue to offer a reduced fee for children filing an Application to Register Permanent Status or Adjust Status (Form I-485) concurrently with a parent; and

■ Clarifies that USCIS will continue to offer fee waivers for the Petition to Remove the Conditions of Residence (Form I-751).

Q. Why must USCIS adjust the fees for applications and petitions for immigration benefits?

A. USCIS is a primarily fee-based organization, with about 90 percent of its budget coming from fees paid by applicants and petitioners for immigration benefits. The law requires USCIS to conduct fee reviews every two years to determine whether it is recovering its costs to administer the nation's immigration laws, process applications and provide the infrastructure needed to support those activities. USCIS's fee revenue in fiscal years 2008 and 2009 was much lower than projected, and fee revenue in fiscal year 2010 remains low. A fee adjustment, as detailed in the final rule, is necessary to ensure USCIS recovers the costs of its operations while also meeting the application processing goals identified in the 2007 fee rule.

Q. Where has USCIS made budget cuts?

A. USCIS has implemented several commonsense plans, including reducing travel, subscriptions and printing, maximizing the use of government space for meetings, and improving utilization of refurbished information technology. USCIS has called for a reduction in offsite training that will help reduce associated travel costs.

Q. Why does USCIS charge fees for immigration benefits?

A. The Immigration and Nationality Act authorizes USCIS to recover the costs of providing most immigration benefits and services through fees. As a fee-based organization, USCIS uses revenue from application fees to pay for the administration of the nation's immigration laws, processing of applications and the infrastructure needed to support these activities. Fee revenue funds more than 90 percent of the USCIS budget.

Q. How does USCIS derive its fees and fee levels?

A. USCIS uses Activity-Based Costing (ABC) to determine the full cost of immigration benefits and biometric services. ABC is a business management tool that assigns resource costs to operational activities and then to products and services. This process provides an accurate assessment of the costs associated with each service USCIS provides. The adjusted fees result from a combination of the ABC model results, estimated budgetary costs, projected levels of applications and petitions for the biennial period and policy and programmatic decisions detailed in the rule and its supporting documentation.

Q. Where can I obtain more information about the final fee rule?

A. The final rule and a detailed chart that identifies the adjusted fees for immigration benefit applications and petitions are available on www.uscis.gov.

Q. How did USCIS seek the public's input on the proposed fee rule?

A. USCIS Director Alejandro Mayorkas hosted a national stakeholder engagement focused exclusively on the proposed fee rule. During this engagement, Director Mayorkas provided information about the proposed rule and encouraged the public to submit written comments following the instructions in the proposed rule.

USCIS also disseminated to stakeholders and the media information about the proposed fee rule, including guidance on how to comment. Throughout the public comment period, USCIS senior leadership took advantage of regularly scheduled engagements to discuss the proposed rule and encourage stakeholders to provide comments in writing.

Q. Where can I obtain detailed information about the comments you received and how you responded?

A. Discussion of the public comments is featured in the final fee rule, available for review on USCIS' website at www.uscis.gov and on the Federal Register. We have grouped the comments into the following categories:

■ General Comments
■ Relative Amount of Fees
■ Fee Waivers and Exemptions
■ Naturalization
■ Improve Service and Reduce Inefficiencies
■ Premium Processing
■ New Fees and Forms
■ Methods Used to Determine Fee Amounts
■ Authority to Set and Collect Fees
■ Other Comments

Q. Are the public comments still available for viewing?

A. Yes. The public comments are available on www.regulations.gov under DHS Docket No. USCIS-2009-0033. A synopsis of those comments and the USCIS response to them is also available in the fee rule itself. We have posted a link to the final fee rule on www.uscis.gov.

Q. When will the adjusted fees take effect?

A. The adjusted fees will take effect on Nov. 23, 2010. Applications or petitions postmarked or filed on or after that date will require the new fees.

Q. How do I know whether to pay the adjusted fee or the old fee?

A. Any application or petition postmarked with a date of Nov. 23, 2010, or later will require the adjusted fee, as established in the final fee rule. Applications and petitions postmarked with a date of Nov. 23, 2010, or later, but that do not contain the adjusted fee, will be rejected as improperly filed.

Q. What if I submitted my application package before Nov. 23, 2010, but it was returned as incomplete?

A. If you submitted an incomplete application or petition package prior to Nov. 23, 2010, you may be subject to the adjusted fee when you re-file. Common filing mistakes include not signing forms and filling out the check improperly. All applicants and petitioners should carefully review their application or petition packages before submitting to ensure that they are complete.

Q. If my check is returned by the bank due to insufficient funds (i.e., a bad check) before the adjusted fees take effect, will I be allowed to issue a new check for the amount of the old fee?

A. Yes. If the correct fee is paid before the final fee rule's effective date (Nov. 23, 2010) with a bad check, a good check will be accepted if received within 14 days of the postmarked date on the USCIS notice. If the fee and associated bad check fees are not paid within 14 days, the application or petition will be rejected, and the adjusted fees will apply to any subsequent filing.

Q. If I send my application or petition before the adjusted fees take effect and it is returned for a minor error, will I be able to make the correction and resend the filing with the old fee?

A. Yes. If the filing is accepted with the old fee, requests for evidence to correct errors will have no impact on the fee paid. But if the error affects USCIS' ability to accept the application as properly filed, the fee paid will be returned with the rejected application. The adjusted fees will apply to any subsequent filing if postmarked on or after the date the final rule takes effect (Nov. 23, 2010).

Q. If I am currently an approved civil surgeon, will I be required to re-apply and pay the new civil surgeon fee?

A. No. If you are currently a designated civil surgeon, you will not have to apply again for civil surgeon designation under the current civil surgeon program. (Note: As described above, the final rule exempts from the new civil surgeon fee certain physicians who examine servicemembers, veterans, and their families at U.S. government facilities.)

Q. What if an applicant or petitioner cannot afford a required fee?

A. In certain circumstances, USCIS can waive fees on a case-by-case basis for "inability to pay." In determining "inability to pay," USCIS officers consider all circumstances documented in the evidence supplied by the applicant, including age, disability, household income and qualification within the past 180 days for a federal means-tested benefit. Fee waiver information is available online at www.uscis.gov/feewaiver.

In close collaboration with stakeholders, USCIS recently published an information collection notice in the Federal Register seeking public comments on the first-ever proposed form for fee waivers (Request for Individual Fee Waiver, Form I-912). The new form is intended to improve consistency in the adjudication of fee waivers.

Source: USCIS

Business

DUE TO AIRCRAFT MAINTENANCE

Cape Air to suspend service to Rota

Continental Micronesia will suspend service to Rota beginning Oct. 5 due to required scheduled maintenance work on the ATR aircraft that currently services Guam's A.B. Won Pat International Airport, Rota Airport, and the Francisco C. Ada-Saipan International Airport.

The service is operated by Continental Connection partner, Cape Air, using ATR aircraft with 46 economy class seats. Cape Air will continue to operate multiple daily flights between Guam's A.B. Won Pat International Airport and Saipan Airport.

The flight schedule will be as follows:

Guam to Saipan (effective Oct. 5, 2010)

Flight: CO9316, daily, departing Guam 2:45am, arriving Saipan 3:35am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9596, Wed/ Sat, departing Guam 6:35am, arriving Saipan 7:25am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9596, except Wed/ Sat., departing Guam 7:00am, arriving Saipan 7:50am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9600, except Wed/ Sat., departing Guam 10:05am, arriving Saipan 10:55am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9602, Mon/ Thu/ Fri/ Sun., departing Guam 1:40pm, arriving Saipan 2:30pm, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9604, daily, departing Guam 5:00pm, arriving Saipan 5:50pm, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9606, daily, departing Guam 8:00pm, arriving Saipan 8:50pm, flight time :50hrs.

Saipan to Guam

Flight: CO9317, daily, departing Saipan 4:25am, arriving Guam 5:15am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9313, Wed/ Sat., departing Saipan 7:55am, arriving Guam 8:45am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9313, except Wed/ Sat., departing Saipan 8:30am, arriving Guam 9:20am, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9601, Mon/ Thu/ Fri/ Sun, departing Saipan 12:00pm, arriving Guam 1:00pm, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9603, except Wed/ Sat., departing Saipan 3:05pm, arriving Guam 3:55pm, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9605, daily, departing Saipan 6:20pm, arriving Guam 7:10pm, flight time :50hrs.
Flight: CO9599, daily, departing Saipan 9:30pm, arriving Guam 10:20pm, flight time :50hrs.

"On behalf of the entire Cape Air team we send a sincere thank you to everyone in the Rota community. During our years of service to the island, we made long and lasting friendships and will always appreciated your loyalty and support," said Cape Air CEO and president Dan Wolf.

Now in its 21st year, Cape Air is one of the largest independent regional airlines in the U.S. annually flying over 610,000 passengers to destinations around the world including New England, New York, the Caribbean, and Florida, the Mid-Atlantic, the Midwest, and Micronesia.

For more information, go to www.capeair.com. ***(Continental)***

Computer attacks linked to wealthy group or nation

WASHINGTON (AP)—A powerful computer code attacking industrial facilities around the world, but mainly in Iran, probably was created by experts working for a country or a well-funded private group, according to an analysis by a leading computer security company.

The malicious code, called Stuxnet, was designed to go after several "high-value targets," said Liam O Murchu, manager of security response operations at Symantec Corp. But both O Murchu and U.S. government experts say there's no proof it was developed to target nuclear plants in Iran, despite recent speculation from some researchers.

Creating the malicious code required a team of as many as five to 10 highly educated and well-funded hackers. Government experts and outside analysts say they haven't been able to determine who developed it or why.

The malware has infected as many as 45,000 computer systems around the world. Siemens AG, the company that designed the system targeted by the worm, said it has infected 15 of the industrial control plants it was apparently intended to infiltrate. It's not clear what sites were infected, but they could include water filtration, oil delivery, electrical and nuclear plants.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Hyundai recalls 139,500 Sonatas in US on steering

WASHINGTON (AP)—Hyundai Motor Co. said it is voluntarily recalling 139,500 Sonata sedans in the U.S. because of a manufacturing defect that could cause drivers to lose steering control. The recall affects 2011 models built between Dec. 11, 2009 and Sept. 10, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration noted on its website Sunday. Some of the cars have steering column shafts with connections that may not have been tightened enough or were improperly assembled. As a result, the steering wheel could become separated from the column or a driver could lose the ability to properly steer the car. The U.S. government had opened an investigation into possible steering problems in the vehicle in August. Hyundai, South Korea's top automaker, has said there have been no related injuries or crashes reported.

Asian stock markets start new week with gains

BANGKOK (AP)—Asian stock markets kicked off a new week of trading in good spirits, encouraged by an improvement in U.S. indicators that provided respite from worries about the durability of the economic recovery. An increase in U.S. corporate spending and a big jump in orders for manufactured goods, both reported Friday, extended Wall Street's gains for September and carried over to Asian trading. But gold was near a record high after briefly touching $1,300 an ounce, with strong demand for the safe-haven metal suggesting underlying doubt about the economic recovery.

Comcast COO Burke takes top spot at NBC Universal

NEW YORK (AP)—Comcast Chief Operating Officer Steve Burke will succeed Jeff Zucker as the new CEO of NBC Universal later this year, when Comcast takes control of the broadcaster. Comcast Corp. and General Electric Co., which currently owns NBC, said Sunday that Burke will work with Zucker during the transition. Zucker, who has spent his entire career at NBC, said last week that he would be stepping down after the change in control, telling employees in an e-mail that he understood the new owners would want to have one of their own at the helm. The possibility of a change-in-command had been looming since last December, when Comcast agreed to buy a 51 percent stake in NBC Universal from Fairfield, Conn.-based GE. That deal, worth $13.75 billion, still hasn't cleared regulatory hurdles, but is expected to be completed around the end of the year.

Nation

AP

All vehicles trying to enter Seton Hall University campus tonight were stopped at the security gate after five students were shot, one of whom has died, at an off campus party, Saturday Sept. 25, 2010 in East Orange, NJ.

Witness describes 'hell' at NJ party shooting

EAST ORANGE, N.J. (AP)—A Seton Hall University student who attended an off-campus house party at which five people were shot said the gunman stood on her back as she lay on the floor and didn't appear to be targeting anyone during the chaos she described as "hell."

"He was just shooting he had no intended target," said a text message from the woman, whose friend was the only person killed.

The woman spoke Sunday by BlackBerry instant messenger on condition of anonymity because she feared for her safety while the shooter remained at large. She said she was too upset to talk over the phone.

She described the Friday night party, which lasted into early Saturday, as a "typical fraternity party" with at least 100 people at the privately owned row house.

Students said the shooter was kicked out of the party when he refused to pay the cover charge.

The woman said she heard a fight erupt before the man was thrown out. Seconds later, she said, he returned with a handgun and started shooting as chaos erupted.

"Everyone was scrambling n stampeding. People were jumping out the two windows n all I cud smell was smoke n blood," the woman wrote. "The next thing I knew I opened my eyes n saw hell..blood n just panic."

The woman said was on the floor when the gunman stepped on her back and shot her friend Jessica Moore, a 19-year-old honors student majoring in psychology. Moore, who was from Disputanta, Va., died later at a hospital.

Authorities had not released the names of the four wounded people, whose injuries weren't considered life-threatening.

Two of the injured are 19-year-old women who go to Seton Hall, and one is a 25-year-old man who attends the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The other is a 20-year-old man from New York who is not a student.

East Orange police were following several leads but had not identified a suspect, spokesman Andrew Di Elmo said.

On Sunday, police had set up an electronic sign, the kind usually used to tell drivers of detours, to ask for help solving the house party shooting, which occurred just after midnight. The message advertised a $10,000 reward for information leading to an arrest.

The party was primarily for students at Seton Hall, a well-regarded Roman Catholic university with a gated campus in South Orange, about 15 miles from New York City. There are no sanctioned fraternities at Seton Hall and no fraternity houses.

Officials say levee fails near Wis. park

PORTAGE, Wis. (AP)—A levee along the Wisconsin River failed on Sunday, flooding the access road leading to a park area and cutting off any residents who did not heed daylong warnings to evacuate.

It wasn't immediately clear how many of the roughly 300 residents remained in Blackhawk Park around 4 p.m. Sunday when the road was closed following the failure of the Caledonia Levee south of Highway 33.

The Columbia County Emergency Management Office was letting nobody in or out of the park until further notice and warned all morning that emergency vehicles, including police, fire and ambulances, would not be able to reach any residents who stayed behind.

Kathy Johnson, deputy director of the Columbia County Emergency Management Office, told The Associated Press that in the event of an emergency, "people are going to have to come out by boat."

"The residents down there are used to having high water and dealing with high water a lot but this could be something that they've never seen, with this amount of water," Johnson said.

She said those who evacuated might be out of their homes for up to a week.

A Red Cross reception center was opened at the Portage St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church.

Johnson said the Department of Natural Resources had been walking the levee all night and fixed one weak spot, but that repair failed and there was nothing more authorities could do.

Attorney: Feds trying to quiet anti-war activists

CHICAGO (AP)—FBI agents in Chicago took a laptop and documents from the home of a Palestinian-American anti-war activist in an attempt to silence his advocacy, an attorney said Sunday.

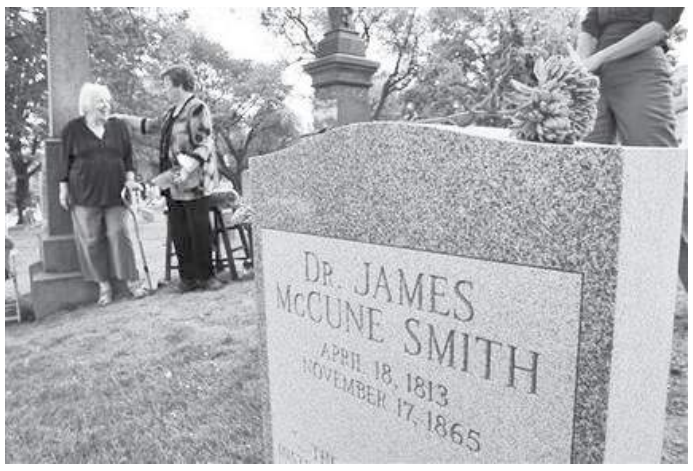
The FBI on Friday searched eight addresses in Minneapolis and Chicago, including the home of Hatem Abudayyeh, who is the executive director of the Arab American Action Network, attorney Jim Fennerty told The Associated Press.

"The government's trying to quiet activists," Fennerty said. "This case is really scary."

More than half a dozen agents went to Abudayyeh's home on Friday and took any documents containing the word "Palestine," Fennerty said.

Abudayyeh, a U.S. citizen whose parent immigrated from Palestine, wasn't home at the time of the raid because he was at a hospital with his mother who is battling liver cancer, Fennerty said.

A message left for an FBI spokesman in Chicago wasn't immediately returned Sunday. The FBI has declined to give details on the searches, saying the agency was investigating criminal activity not protected by the First Amendment. Warrants suggested agents were looking for links between anti-war activists and terrorist groups in Colombia and the Middle East.



AP

A flower lays atop the new tombstone of Dr. James McCune Smith, the nation's first professionally trained African-American doctor, as Smith's great-granddaughter Antoinette Martignoni, left, and Smith's great-great-granddaughter Judy Gerlitz share a moment during a ceremony honoring Smith, Sunday Sept. 26, 2010 at Cypress Hills Cemetery in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Descendants of 1st black US doctor mark NYC grave

NEW YORK (AP)—White descendants of the nation's first professionally trained African-American doctor gathered in a cemetery on Sunday to dedicate a tombstone at the unmarked grave where he was buried in 1865.

"Right now I feel so connected in a new way, to actually be here," said Antoinette Martignoni, the 91-year-old great-granddaughter of James McCune Smith. "I take a deep breath, and I thank God, I really do. I am so glad to have lived this long." Smith, born in New York City in 1813, wanted to be a doctor but was denied entry to medical schools in the United States. He earned a degree from the University of Glasgow in Scotland, then returned to New York to practice. Besides being a doctor, he was celebrated in his lifetime as a writer and an anti-slavery leader.

Although scholars have written books about Smith, who set up a medical practice in lower Manhattan and became the resident physician at an orphanage, his descendants knew nothing about him until recently.

The story of why Smith was nearly overlooked by history and buried in an unmarked grave is in part due to the centuries-old practice of light-skinned blacks passing as white to escape racial prejudice. Smith's mother had been a slave; his father was white. Three of his children lived to adulthood, and they all apparently passed as white, scholars say.

Greta Blau, Smith's great-great-great-granddaughter, made the connection after she took a course at Hunter College on the history of blacks in New York. She did some research and realized that James McCune Smith the trailblazing black doctor was the same James McCune Smith whose name was inscribed in a family Bible belonging to Martignoni, her grandmother.

Her first response was, "But he was black. I'm white."

Blau, of New Haven, Conn., concluded that after Smith's death, his surviving children must have passed as white, and their children and grandchildren never knew they had a black forbear, let alone such an illustrious one.

Blau contacted all the Smith descendants she could find and invited them to join her Sunday for a ceremony dedicating a handsome tombstone at Smith's grave at Brooklyn's Cypress Hills Cemetery

Eleven of Smith's descendants went to lay flowers at the cemetery, the final resting place of other notables including baseball player Jackie Robinson and actress Mae West. Blau's aunt Elizabeth Strazar said she had grown up believing her ethnic heritage was English, Irish, Scottish and French.

After 10 years in US, abortion pill still divisive

NEW YORK (AP)—Ten years ago, after long and bitter debate, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved use of the abortion pill by American women. It is hailed as safe and effective, but new turmoil may lie ahead as the pill's proponents consider using telemedicine to make it more available.

Already, a pioneering telemedicine program in Iowa has provided the pill to about 1,900 women—with a doctor able to consult with a faraway patient in a video teleconference, then unlock a container by remote control to release the pill. To the alarm of anti-abortion activists, abortion providers in other states are pondering whether similar programs would enable them to serve more women, especially in rural areas.

"There are many affiliates that are carefully considering this option, within the confines of their state laws," said Dr. Vanessa Cullins, vice president for medical affairs of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, the nation's leading abortion provider.

Initially known as RU-486, the pill was introduced in France in 1988, and anti-abortion activists fought doggedly over 12 years to keep it out of the U.S. The FDA finally gave its OK on Sept. 28, 2000, and nearly 1.4 million American women have used the pill since then.

ACROSS THE NATION

Ga. pastor: I'll fight like David battled Goliath

LITHONIA, Ga. (AP)—Casting himself as the Bible's ultimate underdog, Bishop Eddie Long went before thousands of faithful supporters at his megachurch Sunday and promised to fight accusations that he lured four young men into sexual relationships. "I feel like David against Goliath. But I got five rocks, and I haven't thrown one yet," Long said in his first public remarks since his accusers filed lawsuits last week claiming he abused his "spiritual authority." He stopped short of denying the allegations but implied he was wronged by them. "I have never in my life portrayed myself as a perfect man. But I am not the man that's being portrayed on the television. That's not me. That is not me," he said.

Report: 10 states sell half of imported crime guns

WASHINGTON (AP)—Nearly half of the guns that crossed state lines and were used in crimes in 2009 were sold in just 10 states, according to a report being released Monday by a mayors' group. Those states accounted for nearly 21,000 guns connected to crimes in other states, said the survey by Mayors Against Illegal Guns, an association of more than 500 mayors led by New York's Michael Bloomberg and Boston's Thomas Menino. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives traced more than 145,000 guns used in crimes in 2009 and found that more than 43,000 of those weapons were sold in other states. Forty-nine percent of those guns were sold in Georgia, Florida, Virginia, Texas, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, California or Arizona.

Unruly passenger forces flight's return to Seattle

SEATTLE (AP)—A Delta spokeswoman says an unruly passenger on a flight bound for Amsterdam forced pilots to return the plane to Seattle-Tacoma International Airport shortly after take-off. Airline spokeswoman Leslie Parker says Flight 224 left the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport just after 6 p.m. Saturday. About 30 minutes later, she says, a passenger disturbance prompted pilots to return to Seattle. The plane landed safely at 7:27 p.m. No one was injured. Parker did not comment on the details of the disturbance.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-11-001

Supply and Delivery of Facility Spill Response and Support Equipment: Power Plant No.1, Saipan

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Supply and Delivery of Facility Spill Response and Support Equipment for Power Plant No.1, Lower Base, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The procurement of equipment is part of the US EPA Stipulated order No. 2 response action and is subject to their approval.

The Bid Package & Specification will be emailed to interested parties, upon request, by CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan Village, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 A.M. to 4:30 P.M.), Monday thru Friday, except government observed holidays, until **October 7, 2010.**

One (1) original and Six (6) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-IFB-11-001, Supply and Delivery of Facility Spill Response and Support Equipment: Power Plant No.1, Saipan"***, to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, Room 4, 3rd Floor Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **October 12, 2010 at 10:00 A.M., (CST)** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. A copy of the complete Bid shall also be sent by email or through compact disks (CD/DVD), to reach the office of procurement at the same time of the bid closing. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security. All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

Offers should be submitted on forms provided and with the relevant details required, and must clearly identify the party submitting them, and be signed by such party or on his behalf. The price or prices should be firm. Any conditions, or exceptions to the terms of this Request for Bids, may be cause to reject the bid.

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract.

The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Bid award will be given to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder whose bid is responsive to specifications and all requirements concerning delivery time, payment terms, warranty and duration of warranty.

Bidders will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on **Friday, October 8, 2010** to Mr. Manuel B Sablan, Jr., Procurement and Supply Manager, CUC P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950 via email - msablan@cucgov.net with a copy to Mr. William Sword, Technical Manager for Oil, Power Generation - **sword.william@gmail.com**; Mr. Venugopal Prabhakara, Managing Engineer, Power Generation **venu@cucgov.net**; and Ms. Janina Mika Muna, Admin. Support Assistant, Procurement & Supply - **mika_muna@cucgov.net.**

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of the government. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

CHARLES WARREN
Acting Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PA/HMGP/CIP PROGRAM – OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Caller Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel.: (670) 664-2371 • Fax: (670) 664-2408

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP10-GOV-162

Architectural & Engineering Design for the Tinian Harbor Emergency Repairs

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Capital Improvement Program Office, are soliciting sealed proposals for the Engineering Design Services for the replacement of new bollards, fender system and repairs of the concrete caps at the Tinian Harbor, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, as revised through May 24, 2001. Public Law 15-95 Local Preference Act, as amended by Public Law 15-118 does not apply to this Federally funded project. All wage rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid at the current U.S. prevailing wage rates established for the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The Scope of Work (SOW) will be available on September 8, 2010 at the Capital Improvement Office, Office of the Governor. A $25.00 non-refundable fee for the proposal package will be assessed. Payment must be made to the CNMI Treasurer and a receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining a proposal package. A Pre-Proposal Meeting is scheduled on September 21, 10:00 a.m at the Governor's Conference Room in Capitol Hill. Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to Ms. Elizabeth Balajadia, CIP Project Manager via email lizb@emchen.com or fax to 670-664-2408 no later than September 24, 2010, 4:30 p.m., local time.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, addressing the the scope of work requirements with details of how the work will be performed and accomplished by consultants, with names of responsible persons identified. Proposers shall also submit a state of qualifications and experience. Proposals shall not exceed twenty five (25) pages. Note that a firm or company that submits as a prime consultant cannot submit as a subconsultant on another proposal. However, subconsultants maybe included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. Qualification and Experience on similar projects (25%)
2. Project Approach – (25%)
3. Work load and resources to accomplish the work in the required time frame(25%)
4. Past performance with the CNMI Government on similar projects (25%)

Proposals must be sealed and marked **"RFP10-GOV-162, Engineering Design Services for the Tinian Harbor Repairs"**. For proposals within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time September 30, 2010. Proposers located outside the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitted an Intent to Propose. Notices of Intent to submit proposal must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 2:00 p.m. September 30, 2010 and maybe submitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via email to procurement@pticom.com. For proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of the sealed proposals must be marked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal services of the foreign country no later than September 30, 2010 AND must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than October 5, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any Proposal in the best interest of the Government. All Proposals shall become the property of the Government.

/s/ ELOY S. INOS, Lieutenant Governor
Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

/s/ Herman S. Sablan, Director
Procurement and Supply, DOF

Asia

AP

In this photo taken Friday, Sept. 24, 2010 and released on Saturday, Sept. 25, 2010 by Malacanang Photo Bureau in Manila, Philippines, Philippine President Benigno Aquino III, right, and U.S. President Barack Obama attend a news conference at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel in New York following the US-ASEAN meeting.

US: Inverted RP flag was 'honest mistake'

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The U.S. government said Sunday it made an "honest mistake" when it displayed an inverted Philippine flag—which wrongfully signified that the Southeast Asian nation was in a state of war—in a meeting hosted by President Barack Obama.

The Philippine flag was displayed upside down behind President Benigno Aquino III when leaders of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations met Obama in New York on Friday.

"This was an honest mistake," U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Rebecca Thompson said in a statement, adding, "the U.S. treasures its close relationship and close partnership with the Philippines."

The American embassy will find out how the "unfortunate" incident happened, she said.

Philippine foreign affairs department spokesman Ed Malaya said the government understood that it was "an honest error" that "should not detract from the true significance of the summit, which showed the unprecedented cooperation between the ASEAN and the U.S."

It was not immediately clear who pointed out the mistake. A photograph of Aquino sitting beside Obama with the inverted flag behind them was displayed on a government website Sunday but its caption did not point out the error.

During the summit, Obama discussed ways of bolstering economic ties between the U.S. and Southeast Asia as well as Asian regional concerns such as territorial disputes in the South China Sea and Nov. 7 elections in military-ruled Myanmar.

Japan asks China to cover damage to patrol boats

TOKYO (AP)—Japan asked China to pay for damage to Japanese patrol boats hit by a Chinese fishing vessel near disputed islands, as simmering tension between the two Asian neighbors showed no signs of easing Monday.

Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshito Sengoku's remarks came a day after Japan's prime minister rejected China's demand that Tokyo apologize and offer compensation for the arrest of the Chinese boat captain earlier this month near islands claimed by both countries.

The captain was released Friday and has since returned to China, but the diplomatic back-and-forth since then indicates nationalistic sentiments stirred up by the incident are not dissipating.

"We will ask China to pay for damage incurred to coast guard vessels," Sengoku told reporters at a morning press conference, saying the request had been relayed to Beijing via diplomatic channels.

Sengoku also said it was now China's turn to decide whether it wants to repair bilateral ties.

"At this point, the ball is now in China's court," he said.

ASIAN BRIEFS

British aid worker kidnapped in Afghanistan

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—Afghan election officials ordered recounts Sunday in seven provinces after last week's parliamentary elections, while security problems continued to plague the country with the kidnapping of four aid workers, including one British woman. The British aid worker and three Afghan colleagues were ambushed as they traveled in two vehicles in northeastern Kunar province. Police fought a gunbattle with the kidnappers near the ambush site before the assailants fled, Kunar police chief Khalilullah Zaiyi said. Steven O'Connor, communications director for Development Alternatives Inc., a global consulting company based in the Washington, D.C., area, said late Sunday night that its employees, including a British national, were involved.

Delegates gather in NKorea for political meeting

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—Delegates to North Korea's biggest political meeting in decades gathered in the country's capital amid speculation that leader Kim Jong Il will appoint a son and other family members to key positions as part of a succession plan. The official Korean Central News Agency announced last week the ruling Worker's Party would hold a conference Tuesday to select its "supreme leadership body" after having initially said in June the event would be held in early September. KCNA gave no explanation for the delay. Party delegates to the conference arrived at Pyongyang's railway station Sunday amid sunny, breezy weather, footage shot by video news service APTN in the North Korean capital showed.

Pakistani minister resigns after criticizing army

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Pakistan's federal minister for defense production resigned after being summoned by the prime minister to explain comments he made criticizing the army and accusing it of killing prominent politicians. Abdul Qayyum Khan Jatoi accused the army of killing several high-profile Pakistani figures, including former Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto and ethnic Baluch tribal leader Nawab Akbar Bugti. Prime Minister Yousuf Raza Gilani later summoned Jatoi to explain his comments. He told reporters Sunday the minister made his statements "in his personal capacity, and within five or six hours he resigned."

World

Israeli building slowdown ends; settlers celebrate

REVAVA, West Bank (AP)—Jewish settlers released balloons and broke ground on a kindergarten in celebration Sunday as a 10-month construction slowdown expired, while U.S. and Israeli leaders tried to figure out how to keep Palestinians from walking out of peace talks over the end of the restrictions.

After the slowdown ran out at midnight, there was no Palestinian statement about the future of the talks. The Palestinians asked for an Oct. 4 meeting of an Arab League body to discuss the situation, possibly giving diplomats an extra week to work out a compromise.

Minutes after the expiration, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu called on the Palestinians not to walk away, but instead to maintain constant contact "to achieve a historic framework accord within a year." In a statement, Netanyahu said his "intention to achieve peace is genuine."

Palestinians have questioned whether they can make peace with Netanyahu, known as a hard-liner.

Israeli settlers were not waiting, celebrating the end of the slowdown and planning to send bulldozers into action in two places in the West Bank early Monday.

In Revava, a settlement deep in the West Bank, about 2,000 activists released 2,000 balloons in the blue and white of the Israeli flag at sundown Sunday. The balloons were meant to symbolize the 2,000 apartments that settlers say are ready to be built immediately.

"Today it's over and we will do everything we can to make sure it never happens again," settler leader Dani Dayan told the crowd. "We return with new energy and a new determination to populate this land."

It was unclear what how the official end of the slowdown would affect construction. Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu has already signaled future settlement construction will be kept to a minimum, in contrast to relatively unfettered housing activity of past Israeli governments.

The Palestinians have said they will quit the negotiations if Israel resumes building, though President Mahmoud Abbas said in a published interview Sunday in the pan-Arabic daily al-Hayat that he would consult with Arab partners first to weigh his options.

Speaking in Paris Sunday, Abbas said, "There is only one choice in front of Israel: either peace or settlements."

The settlers' festivities went ahead despite Netanyahu's call for them to show restraint as the curbs are lifted. Palestinians oppose all settlements built on territories they claim for a future state, and renewed building could endanger negotiations launched early this month by the Obama administration.

The deadlock over settlements has created the first crisis in the negotiations, and U.S. mediators raced to bridge the gap between the Israelis and Palestinians. But a deal was far from certain.

German police: 12 dead in crash of Polish bus

BERLIN (AP)—At least 12 people were killed and dozens injured Sunday when a bus carrying Polish tourists crashed on the highway southeast of Berlin, police said.

Arne Feuring, president of police in Frankfurt an der Oder, told the news agency DAPD that seven of the wounded were in critical condition, while another 27 suffered injuries that were not life-threatening.

Polish Prime Minister Donald Tusk and Health Minister Ewa Kopacz arrived in Berlin later Sunday to view the crash site and visit the injured, who were being treated in several Berlin hospitals.

Ahead of his arrival, Chancellor Angela Merkel called Tusk to express her sympathy and vow that German doctors and officials would do their utmost to help heal the wounded.

"This accident affects not only our Polish friends, but us as well," German Foreign Minister Guido Westerwelle said in a statement. "Our deepest sympathy and our thoughts are with the friends and family of the victims in their dark hour."

Feuring said authorities believe the bus, carrying 49 Poles on their way home from a vacation in Spain, crashed into a car that was merging on to the highway and then slammed into a pylon of an overpass.

WORLD BRIEFS

Iran crosses into Iraq to hit bombing suspects

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—Iranian forces crossed into neighboring Iraq and killed 30 fighters from a group it says was involved in last week's bombing of a military parade, state TV reported Sunday. Gen. Abdolrasoul Mahmoudabadi of the elite Revolutionary Guards said the "terrorists" were killed on Saturday in a clash "beyond the border" and that his forces were still in pursuit of two men who escaped the ambush. While Iran has said in the past it would target armed groups on Iraqi soil this is a rare case of it actually admitting to an attack. Iraqi officials have complained in the past about Iranian artillery shelling its northern mountainous region where armed Kurdish opposition groups have taken refuge.

Egypt pope apologizes over bishop's Islam remarks

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's Coptic Christian leader Pope Shenouda III apologized in a television interview Sunday to any Muslims who were offended after his top bishop reportedly disputed the authenticity of some verses of the Quran. The remarks come during a period of heightened tension in Egypt between the majority Muslims and a Christian minority that feels discriminated against. Shenouda's apology comes a day after the premier institute of Islamic learning in the Sunni Muslim world, Al-Azhar, criticized Bishop Bishoy, the Coptic Church's No. 2, for provoking sectarian tension. Bishoy was quoted in the Egyptian media for wondering about the time frame for the revelation of the Quranic verses disputing the divine nature of Jesus Christ. The bishop reportedly said these verses were inserted after the Prophet Muhammad's death by one of his successors.

Weakened Matthew soaks southern Mexico, Guatemala

VILLAHERMOSA, Mexico (AP)—The remnants of Tropical Storm Matthew drenched parts of Central America and southern Mexico on Sunday, a day after it weakened to a tropical depression. The storm's forward movement slowed to a crawl and top wind speeds fell to about 25 mph (35 kph). Its center was near the city of Villahermosa in the Gulf coast state of Tabasco, an area already hit by severe flooding in recent months. Forecasters at the U.S. National Hurricane Center in Miami said the system's slow movement meant it could produce rainfall totals of 6 to 10 inches (15 to 25 centimeters) over parts of Mexico and Guatemala, threatening deadly flash floods and mudslides.

Focus

Vatican probes group tied to scandal

VATICAN CITY (AP)—It's a life regimented in excruciating detail, down to the way they eat an orange. Silence is the norm, information is limited, e-mail is screened, close friendships are discouraged and family members are kept at bay—all in the name of God's will.

AP

This June 10, 2010 picture shows Silvia Vernudez, 37, of Venezuela, left, and Marcela De Maria y Campos, 38, of Mexico, during an interview in Rome. The life of those known as "consecrated women" is regimented down to the way they eat an orange, with silence the norm, e-mail screened and close friendships discouraged. But these women are not nuns _ they are lay members of the now-disgraced Legionaries of Christ order who dedicate their lives to the Catholic Church. Their situation has so alarmed Pope Benedict XVI that in May he ordered an extremely rare full Vatican investigation. Vernudez runs a house for consecrated women in the Philippines and was visiting the mother house in Rome, and Campos is a member of the Legionaries of Christ Regnum Christi.

By NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press Writer

Known as consecrated women, they are lay Catholics affiliated with a conservative religious order who dedicate their lives to the church, making promises of chastity, poverty and obedience similar to the vows taken by nuns.

But the cult-like conditions they endure so alarmed Pope Benedict XVI that in May he ordered an extremely rare full Vatican investigation of the obscure group, which operates in the U.S., Mexico, Spain, the Philippines and a dozen other countries. The inquiry is expected to begin in the coming weeks.

The alleged abuses came to light during an eight-month Vatican investigation into the Legionaries of Christ, a secretive religious order beloved by Pope John Paul II but now discredited because of revelations that its charismatic founder sexually abused seminarians and fathered at least three children.

The women belong to the order's lay wing, Regnum Christi, a global community of some 70,000 Catholics in more than 30 countries who have families and regular jobs yet participate in the mission of bringing people closer to Christ.

Only about 900 are consecrated—nearly all women, but also a handful of men. They give up possessions and ties to their former lives much in the way nuns or priests do. They adhere to Vatican-approved statutes that require them to "voluntarily renounce the use of their capacity for decision-making"—pledging unswerving obedience to their superiors.

In interviews with The Associated Press, eight former members from the U.S. and Mexico told of enduring emotional, psychological and spiritual abuse at the hands of superiors who told them they would be violating God's will if they broke any rules. They said their experiences left them, at least temporarily, unable to cope with real life once they got out.

"I feel like I was brainwashed," said J., an American who joined the movement shortly after graduation from a Catholic university in the late 1990s and asked that only her middle initial be used. Like most of the women who spoke to the AP, she did not want to be identified for fear of retaliation from the Legion.

"I really thought it was a mortal sin to break any one of the little rules that were laid out by the statutes or the directress," she said.

Four current members denied the movement was a cult, saying the rules were aimed at creating uniformity while fostering spirituality. Still, they acknowledged problems with the way women were recruited, saying that 18-year-olds shouldn't make lifelong promises after a six-week candidacy program.

"I think that what is happening to us, even if it's painful, to be very honest I think it was necessary," said Silvia Vernudez, a 37-year-old teacher from Venezuela who directs a house for consecrated women in the Philippines and was visiting the mother house in Rome.

"This is a crisis," she said. "There's no way we cannot say that. But it's a moment of growth."

The Vatican investigation of the consecrated women is the latest step in its crackdown on the Legionaries of Christ, founded by the Rev. Marcial Maciel in Mexico in 1941. Dogged for decades by allegations he sexually abused seminarians, no action was taken until 2006, when the Vatican sanctioned Maciel and ordered him to a lifetime of penance and prayer—though it did not say for what.

Only after his death in 2008 did the order admit publicly that he had fathered children and that the abuse allegations were true, spurring the Vatican investigation. In a May 1 announcement, the Vatican said it was taking over the order and would rewrite its constitutions. A little-noticed line of that directive also announced an investigation into Regnum Christi's consecrated members.

Such inquiries have been carried out only rarely, including the probe of U.S. seminaries after the sex abuse scandal exploded in 2002. While there have been no sex abuse allegations within Regnum Christi, the problems uncovered in the Legion—abuse of authority, suppression of dissent and a power structure built on unswerving obedience—are also rampant in consecrated life.

AP impact

Former consecrated members told of having their lives manipulated by strict rules that occupied nearly every waking minute of their day and by an endless search for new recruits.

Nine years after she left the movement, J. can still rattle off the time stamps that dictated her day, starting with morning wake-up in which a woman would run into the dorm room at 5:20 a.m. and shout "Christ our King!" and the others would shout back "Thy kingdom come!"

"5:20 a.m. to 5:50 a.m., get ready," J. continued. "Morning prayer from 5:50 to 6 a.m. Six to 6:30, morning meditation. Six-thirty to 7:05 Mass. Seven-ten to 7:30 breakfast, 7:30-7:35 free time, then 7:35 chores."

Malise Lagarde, who left in August 2009 after 13 years, said she was reprimanded by her superiors when she asked questions about Maciel's double life, and was told that if she persisted, she would be putting her vocation at risk and abandoning God's will.

"Members are not allowed to question or think outside groupthink," she said. "I know that members totally dismiss any discussion of the Legion and Regnum Christi as a cult—I did when I was still part of it—but it sure looks like one once you get out."

Mary, a 36-year-old American who was consecrated in 1996 and left eight years later, still shudders at the silence required of the women. Conversation was allowed only during certain times of the day and there was no talking at meals, except on certain feast days.

"Inside, the life we lived was a religious life that was even stricter than a lot of the convents in the world," said Mary, who is now a married mother in the Washington D.C., area. She spoke on condition of anonymity because she feared legal action.

Other former members recalled how close bonding with other women was frowned upon, so they grew emotionally dependent on their spiritual directors. Parents could call only once a month and visit once or twice a year. Women who lived overseas were allowed to return home every seven years.

Some of the more granular rules, obeyed by members but not approved by the Vatican's central authority, extended into every facet of life.

Members were told how to eat a piece of bread (tear off small pieces; never bite into it) and an orange (with a knife and fork). They were told how many movies they could see a year (six, selected for content); what television programs they could watch (news, debates, some sporting events, no drama or music shows); and to refrain from reading in the bathroom. Mail and e-mail were screened. Women who made mistakes were often publicly humiliated.

While a highly regimented life and isolation from friends and family are common for cloistered nuns and monks, such extreme rules are highly unusual for a lay Catholic movement, according to canonists and experts in religious law.

"There is not one community I'm aware of that has similar rules," said the Rev. Francis Morrisey, a canon lawyer at Ottawa's University of Saint Paul, who has written about warning signs in new religious movements.

The Rev. Andreas Schoeggl, a Legion spokesman in Rome, stressed the dining etiquette was designed to create uniform standards in an international movement where some members might feel uncomfortable with the table manners of others.

He claimed the obedience rules were modeled after the statutes of the Jesuits, with whom Maciel studied, and said they by no means implied a renunciation of decision-making or free will.

However, a Jesuit canon law professor, the Rev. Ladislas Orsy of Georgetown Law School, said sections of the Regnum Christi statutes, which were approved by the Vatican in 2004, could lead to potential abuse.

"No one can give away a basic component of his or her humanity and renounce totally his or her 'decision-making capacity'—unless (they) want to become a zombie," Orsy said in an e-mail. "It opens the way for an ignorant and unwise superior to mislead and to harm—seriously, permanently—his subjects."

Former superiors now say there was something terribly wrong with the way they exercised authority. Denisse, who ran a house for consecrated women in Mexico, said she left last year after more than a decade when she realized the psychological harm the movement was causing.

"If you had a fragile personality, people who wanted to be perfect, they broke you psychologically," the 40-year-old Mexican woman said.

The Catholic Church distinguishes between three "states" of life in the faith: clergy, lay people and consecrated people, which includes nuns and sisters, as well as hermits and monks. Being consecrated implies a definitive separation or setting apart from society.

When the women of Regnum Christi become consecrated, they pledge poverty, chastity and obedience before a Legion priest in a ceremony during which they receive a Bible and a crucifix. After two years, they get a ring signifying their "marriage" to Christ.

Among other things, what makes them different from being a nun is that they are making private promises to a person, not public vows made to God and approved by church authorities.

The consecrated women also lack certain canonical protections. For example, it's extremely difficult to kick out women who join religious orders like the Carmelites or Dominicans—an important provision given they have no income.

But former Regnum Christi women said when their superiors no longer wanted them, they were made to believe they didn't have a vocation and should leave.

"In a traditional structure, yes, you dedicate your whole life to the order, but the order also looks after you," particularly as you grow old and need medical care, said Pete Vere, a canon lawyer who has studied the Legion and Regnum Christi.

"It's like marriage—for better or worse. ... But here, it seems, they're benefiting from the youth and the zeal and they're telling these people: 'You have this vocation ... but we can cut you off at any time.'"

Schoeggl acknowledged there were no specific protections for lay consecrated members, but he stressed that canon law allows for interpretations that cover them.

The movement says it is proposing changes to some rules, such as the screening of e-mails and how often women can visit their parents. It also wants to see that women are more sure of their vocations before joining.

J. said she was totally unprepared for life on the outside.

"I didn't have a checking account. I had to find a car," she said.

"You come face to face with the world. You're not folding laundry for the salvation of souls anymore, you're selling perfume because you need to pay the rent."

Overdrive

2011 Infiniti M56 can even win over Mom

By LARRY PRINTZ
THE VIRGINIAN-PILOT

My folks arrived for a visit the same day Infiniti delivered its redesigned full-size flagship, the 2011 M56 sedan, for a weeklong test drive. There was little doubt that my mother liked it. This was significant—she rarely has an opinion about cars.

"I don't know what kind of car in your driveway, but it's gorgeous," she said.

Who am I to argue with my mother?

After all, she's right. The M56's graceful, flowing lines recall the smaller Infiniti G37 sedan, but on a larger scale. The M56 blends art and authority; think of it as a bouncer in a dinner jacket.

Its sinewy new sheet metal cloaks a wheelbase that remains unchanged from the 2010 model at 114.2 inches. The car, though, offers a bit of extra room: It is 1.5 inches wider and a sixth of an inch longer.

The M's interior retains the character familiar to Infiniti buyers. The cabin has an intimate feel, with roomy front-seat accommodations and a rear seat that's comfortable, but with less leg room than up front. The trunk is adequately sized. Some might find the M too small inside considering its overall size. Mom did, but most folks won't have an issue.

The car's cabin is gorgeous, with an instrument panel that oozes a luxuriously modern Japanese sensibility. Like the exterior, the design flows, with lines that wrap seamlessly into the door panels. The optional quilted leather seating and white ash wood trim with silver powder accent are especially fetching.

Despite the many buttons and large navigation screen, the controls turn out to be logically arranged, once you're used to the layout.

The test vehicle, an M56, is the top model in the M sedan family, which also includes the M37. The difference in the numbers reflects a difference in power plants. The M56 features a mighty 420-horsepower, 5.6-liter V8, while the M37 gets a refined 330-horsepower, 3.7-liter V6. Both engines mate to a seven-speed automatic transmission and feed their power to the rear wheels, or all four.

My guess is that Mom would like the V8; she likes lots of power under her right heel if she needs it. The refined V8 delivers gobs of power smoothly, and the automatic transmission responds flawlessly. For true luxury-car aficionados, it's the only power plant to have, although the V6 is certainly an acceptable substitute for price-sensitive buyers. Don't choose it for fuel economy: its EPA rating (18 mpg city, 26 mpg highway) is little better than the V8's (16 city, 26 highway).

The fully independent suspension returns an absorbent but firm ride. There's some lean during cornering, but not enough to cause anxiety.

I am less sure that Mom would appreciate the optional Sport Package, offered on rear-wheel-drive models. It features four-wheel steering, sport-tuned suspension, stronger brakes and 20-inch wheels and tires.

The test vehicle lacked that option but still proved to be a willing dance partner. Like any large, heavy rear-driver, you'll notice this car's weight while cornering, but there's surprising agility. The car has good grip; the brakes are as strong as the engine.

Mom was dazzled by the M's technology, most of it available in the optional $3,000 Technology Package. Electronic driver-intervention items make sure you stay in your lane and don't follow too closely, remind you when there's a vehicle in your blind spot, warn of impending collisions, and even brake harder for you to avoid crashes in the first place.

Other options are neat, if a bit gimmicky. For example, Forest Air varies the air conditioning speed to give the illusion of an outdoor breeze. It feels like, well, an air conditioner with variable speeds.

Aside from such nitpicking, it's hard to find serious fault with a car that has such personality and is so different from any other in its class.

We should, I suppose, always listen to our mothers.

Larry Printz is automotive editor at The Virginian-Pilot in Norfolk, Va. He can be reached at larry.printz@pilotonline.com.

NUTS & BOLTS

Our take: The M stands for mmm-mmm good.
Pro: Power, poise, presence
Con: Tight rear seat, small trunk
Stats:
Engine: 5.6-liter DOHC V8
Wheelbase: 114.2 inches
Length: 194.7 inches
Weight: 4,028 pounds
Cargo space: 14.9 cubic feet
EPA rating (city/highway): 16/25 mpg
Fuel consumption: 20 mpg
Fuel type: Premium unleaded
Base price, base model: $46,250
Base price, test model: $57,500
As tested: $67,410

Cylinder deactivation has come a long way

By STEVEN COLE SMITH
THE ORLANDO SENTINEL

QUESTION: We are looking at a new Honda. The engine has cylinder deactivation. I had a car with this once, and it simply did not work. Should I trust it now?—L.L. Carter, The Villages, Fla.

ANSWER: That must have been on one of the "8-6-4" engines from General Motors, specifically Cadillac, and no, it wasn't a success. Then as now, the idea was to shut down some engine cylinders when their power isn't needed, such as at modest highway speeds, thereby saving gas.

GM's "8-6-4" was a V-8 that became a six-cylinder, then a four-cylinder, then a V-8 again when more power was needed and you pressed the accelerator. Honda's current deactivation system—as well as similar systems used by other manufacturers, such as Chrysler—works seamlessly, and does save a little gas, especially if you drive a lot on the highway. Why does it work now, and didn't then? Computers that manage the engine are so much more advanced than they were 30 years ago in 1981, when GM debuted that engine.

■■■

Q: My new car has push-button starting, instead of starting with a key. Can you tell me the supposed advantage? After a month in the car, I still can't get used to not needed a key.—Bill McMahon, West Palm Beach, Fla.

A: Probably half the new vehicles I test now don't use an ignition key. I once wrote that I didn't see much advantage, but got a letter from an elderly woman with severe arthritis who said it was very hard for her to insert and twist a key, and she loved push-button starting.

Steven Cole Smith is the automotive editor at the Orlando Sentinel in Florida. Send questions to scsmith@orlandosentinel.com.

No need yet to act on oil seepage

By PAUL BRAND
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I have a 2004 Honda Odyssey with 90,000 miles with a small amount of oil seepage under the transmission and engine. The dealer recommends a costly repair but is not too concerned about it. I have heard of a "magic" caulk that can be applied over any surface to seal a minor leak. Is this true?

ANSWER: I wouldn't worry until the "seepage" becomes a "leak" that forces you to check the oil level every couple of days. The oil is likely coming from the engine's rear main seal which, as the dealer advised, is a costly repair and in most cases is not physically accessible without major disassembly.

Over the years, I've tried virtually every type of "stop-leak" product for oil leaks — with virtually no success. Most of the products are intended to be added to the oil and contain ethers that tend to swell seals, hopefully stopping or slowing the leak. Ethers also tend to thin the motor oil, which I've never been a fan of. So just make sure to keep the oil level up and don't worry too much unless it becomes a significant leak.

■■■

Q: A mechanic pointed out that the rear drum brakes on my rear-wheel-drive 2000 Mitsubishi Montero were not functioning properly and needed adjusting. I had always understood that rear brake shoes are automatically adjusted each time the brakes are applied while driving in reverse. But I was told that applying the hand brake also serves to adjust the rear brakes. Is this true?

A: Your rear-wheel-drive Montero features rear drum brakes that require the application of the parking brake to adjust the rear brake shoes. When clearance between shoe and drum reaches a certain amount, applying the parking brake moves the shoes enough to ratchet the adjuster mechanism, moving the shoes closer to the drum in the at-rest position. So, in order to keep the rear drum brakes properly adjusted, you'll need to use the parking brake regularly, or manually adjust the brakes as your mechanic did.

On many vehicles, rear drum brakes utilize a self-adjusting mechanism that is activated by applying the foot-operated brakes while backing up. The self-actuating design pulls the shoes against the inside of the drum when applied in reverse. When the gap between the shoe and drum is large enough, the movement of the shoe rotates the self-adjuster enough to "click" or ratchet a notch, moving the shoe closer to the drum in the at-rest position.

■■■

Q: I had my 1999 Lincoln Town Car in for a 90,000-mile servicing and was told the car needed a new serpentine belt. It was replaced along with the tensioner. The gas mileage according to the car's computer readout was about 16 miles per gallon before the belt replacement but abruptly fell to about 13 mpg. The dealer told me they did nothing to cause this sudden drop in mileage. Before returning to the dealer I'd appreciate your opinion.

A: According to my Alldata automotive database, the maintenance schedule for your vehicle calls for no service to the serpentine belt until an inspection at 100,000 miles. That's about the typical life expectancy for this type of belt, so replacing it at this mileage is not unusual.

More importantly, replacing the serpentine belt should have no impact on performance or fuel mileage. This is the accessory drive belt, which drives the alternator, power steering pump, air-conditioning compressor and water pump. I'd ask the dealer to double-check its workmanship to make sure something like an electrical harness connector was not left unplugged. An issue with the coolant sensor, mass airflow sensor or something similar would certainly affect fuel mileage.

Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, *is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paulbrand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.*

Life & Style

In harrowing book, freed hostage details horror

BY JOCELYN NOVECK
AP NATIONAL WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Of all the horror, pain, and degradation both physical and mental that Ingrid Betancourt suffered during six and a half years in the Colombian jungle, perhaps nothing felt more dangerous to her than when her captors tried to erase her last bit of identity: her name.

They wanted to call her by a number. And she refused, angering her fellow hostages and probably putting all of them at risk. "Ingrid Betancourt," she said when the time came to recite her number.

"For me it was like taking away my oxygen," Betancourt says now, speaking in a highly emotional interview upon the release of "Even Silence Has an End," her powerful, often agonizing memoir of life in captivity.

"There are things you do because you have to. You don't always calculate the consequences. And sometimes you do very stupid things because of that." Eventually, though, the captors backed down.

Betancourt's book has already been called "a classic of Colombian history and literature" by Hector Abad, one of the country's most influential living writers. It is also bound to propel Betancourt, a heroine in France and a more complex figure in Colombia (she is a citizen of both), to bigger fame in the United States and elsewhere—as is her appearance Wednesday on "The Oprah Winfrey Show."

And it will raise the question of just where the former Colombian senator and presidential candidate (she was a minor party candidate when captured in February 2002) goes from here. Another presidential run? A global campaign against kidnapping? More books?

"I don't want really to come back to politics but I can't say I won't do it (later)," Betancourt says, sitting in the living room of a friend's Manhattan home. At 48, the mother of two looks much younger, and chic in a short skirt, high-heeled slingbacks revealing purple-painted toes, and a string of pearls around the neck that, in the jungle, was often encircled by chains.

"I am concerned about Colombia and compelled to react," she says. "But I have to reconstruct my life. I am a human being. All us survivors, we are wounded very deeply. We need to be able to reconstruct relationships with others based on trust."

And, she says, she needs to find her own place to live. Though she's been dividing her time between Paris, where her mother lives, and New York, Betancourt says she plans to live somewhere else entirely—and not in Colombia, at least for now.

Her story, is, by any measure, astonishing.

Betancourt

Betancourt was captured by FARC guerrillas as she attempted to travel to San Vicente del Caguan, where then-President Andres Pastrana had just ordered a rebel safe haven dismantled after failed peace talks. As days grew into months, months into years, she despaired of ever being freed. Several times, she tried to escape into the jungle, risking death either from the elements or from the captors who tracked her down. One escape involved making a flotation device from a Styrofoam cooler.

As punishment, she was kept chained much of the time, often to a tree. She often slept on plastic sheets on the ground. Going to the bathroom meant asking permission to walk over to a horrid-smelling hole in the earth and compete with huge swarms of insects to relieve herself.

Her book begins with the horrible retribution after the third escape attempt, when she crawled out of the "cage" she and her campaign aide and fellow hostage, Clara Rojas, shared.

"I started with that because it was the hardest moment," she says. "I thought if I can write about this, I can write about anything." She was chained and marched back, as if on a leash. And yet she doesn't write what is generally assumed: that she was raped once recaptured.

She responds: "I don't like to write about everything. You don't say certain things out of respect for the soul, for what you are, for others too—my children, my mom, the readers—even the captors."

After more than six years of living with the threat of death hanging over her every day, Betancourt was rescued in a spectacular way. Colombia's military infiltrated the FARC and duped the guerrillas into allowing her and fellow hostages to depart on a helicopter, thinking they were simply being moved.

Once aloft, the rebels accompanying the hostages were overpowered and the captives were told they were free. A short video taken by the rescuers shows Betancourt weeping with joy.

And yet, in a gesture that did little to win friends in Colombia, she recently requested $6.8 million in damages for her years in captivity. When word of her petition became public in July, there was widespread outrage among Colombians who considered her worse than ungrateful. Betancourt withdrew the request.

Her frustration with the fallout is palpable. She was, she says, acting on behalf of all victims of terrorism who deserve protection from the state.

"It has been very painful for me to see the reaction," she says, her eyes welling with tears. "The Colombian government presents this as if I were suing the soldiers who rescued me. They're saying I want to make money off my abduction. I tell you something: the amount of money that the lawyers came up with? It could have been twice, three times that, I wouldn't have accepted it to go through what I went through. So I think it's very unjust, very humiliating.

"They were like wolves after me, in the most cruel way."

Writing the book was clearly a painful experience. Betancourt says it took 18 months. She would eat breakfast, then force herself to write from 9 a.m. until 4 p.m., with no break. She started with a list of events that she didn't want to forget, and her memory, she says, would often drift to unexpected places.

She didn't, of course, have notes to rely on. "We were frisked all the time," she says. "So I would write during the day, but then burn it." She was given two notebooks, she said, in the entire six years. She had a pencil, but no sharpener, so she used a machete.

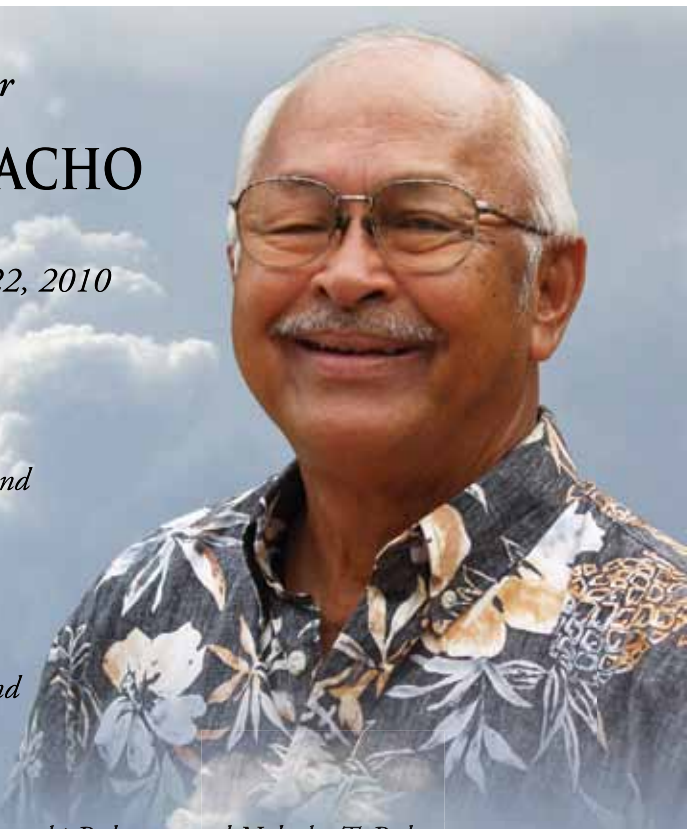
And so, she says, the book "is not chronological, it is emotional." But certain dates are seared in her brain. Like the day when she discovered, from reading a scrap of newspaper wrapped around a cabbage, that her beloved father, Gabriel Betancourt, had died, a year after her capture. Before she left on the trip that led to her capture, she had asked him—he was ill—to hold on, if anything happened to her.

In Loving Memory of our beloved Husband and Father

FRANCISCO DELEON GUERRERO CAMACHO

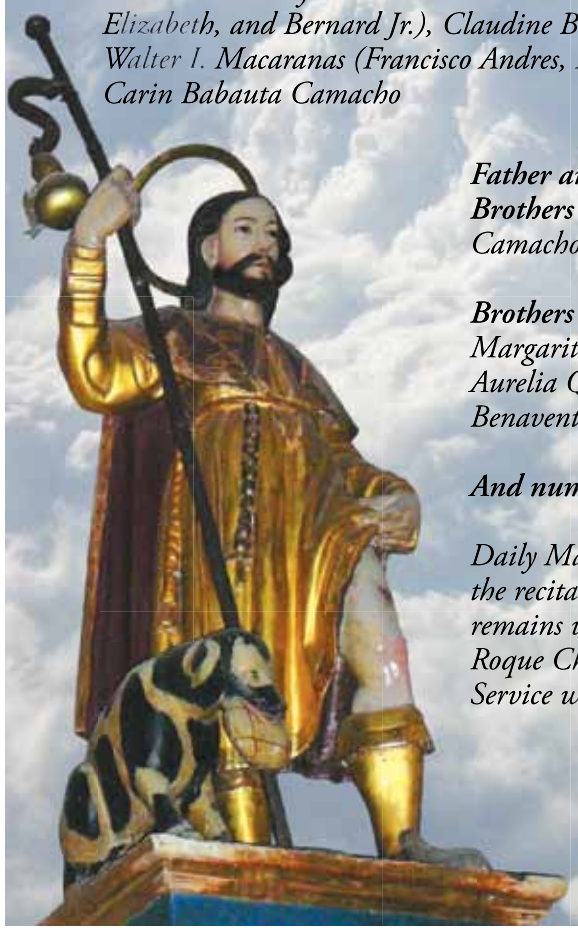
ALSO KNOWN AS BOY

Born on September 25, 1941 and called to eternal rest on September 22, 2010



Predeceased by:
Parents: *Juan Campus Camacho and Soledad Deleon Guerrero Camacho*
Mother in Law: *Carmen Nekai Babauta*
Brothers and Sisters & In Laws: *Jose Deleon Guerrero Camacho, Rosalia Camacho Flores and Lorenzo T. Flores, Leonardo Deleon Guerrero Camacho and Rita T. Camacho, and Magdalena Camacho Benavente*

Survived by:
Spouse: *Victoria Babauta Camacho*
Children: *Cathryn Beth and Bernard P. Villagomez (Camille Victoria, Chloe Elizabeth, and Bernard Jr.), Claudine Babauta Camacho, Michelle Clarice and Walter I. Macaranas (Francisco Andres, Devin Jared, and Tyler Joshua), Neda Carin Babauta Camacho*



Father and Stepmother In-Law: *Santiago Miyasaki Babauta and Nobuko T. Babauta*
Brothers and Sisters & In Laws: *Shirley Camacho, Marcelino Deleon Guerrero and Cecilia T. Camacho, Luis C. Benavente, Margarita Deleon Guerrero Camacho.*

Brothers and Sisters in Law:
Margarita B. Camacho, Ana and Tito Bansil, Juan N. and Charlene T. Babauta, Felipe N. and Aurelia Q. Babauta, Janet B. and Ben Pereda, Luis N. and Alice Babauta, Cecilia B. and William Benavente, and James N. Babauta and Laura Buckneil

And numerous nieces and nephews.

Daily Mass of Intention is being celebrated each evening at 6:00pm at San Roque Church followed by the recitation of the Holy Rosary. Funeral Service will be held on Thursday, September 30, 2010. His remains will be at Nuestra Senora Dela Paz Memorial Chapel at 7:00am and will be taken to San Roque Church at 7:30am. Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 11:00am. Interment Service will take place at Santuario PAX Memorial Gardens in Kagman.

Please join us in prayers

Dangkulo na si yu'us maase. Thank You
Victoria Babauta Camacho, Children and Family

'Wall Street' leads market with $19 million debut

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Movie fans are investing in Michael Douglas and Oliver Stone's "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps," which opened as the No. 1 weekend movie with $19 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

The 20th Century Fox release led a crop of so-so to weak newcomers, though the sequel to Douglas and Stone's 1987 hit "Wall Street" did not quite set off a bull market at the box office.

Its financial returns were solid but unspectacular as Hollywood experienced a typically sleepy early fall weekend, with audiences finding nothing to bring them out in huge numbers.

The "Wall Street' sequel reunites director Stone with Douglas, who reprises his role as investment shark Gordon Gekko. The movie co-stars Shia LaBeouf, Carey Mulligan and Josh Brolin in a tale set against the 2008 economic meltdown.

"I think expectations were pretty high for this movie. That's not only an iconic character of Gordon Gekko but it's also an iconic movie," said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com. "But then, it's about the world of high finance. That's not exactly a topic that sets the box office on fire, so I don't think younger audiences were necessarily going to rush out for something like that."

The Warner Bros. animated adventure "Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole" was No. 2 with a soft opening of $16.3 million.

It finished barely ahead of the $16 million haul for Warner's "The Town," the Ben Affleck heist drama that was the previous weekend's No. 1 release. "The Town" held up well and raised its 10-day total to $49.1 million, giving it a solid shot at hitting the $100 million mark, said Dan Fellman, head of distribution at Warner.

Sony's teen comedy "Easy A," which had been No. 2 a weekend earlier, also held up well with $10.7 million to finish at No. 4. "Easy A" lifted its 10-day total to $32.8 million.

Disney's mother-daughter comedy "You Again," starring Kristen Bell, Jamie Lee Curtis and Sigourney Weaver, debuted at No. 5 with an anemic $8.3 million.

Playing in narrower release, the Will Ferrell-produced teen comedy "The Virginity Hit" flopped with just $300,000.

None of the new wide releases came close to the $8,000-a-theater average managed a year ago by "Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs," which led the box-office over the same weekend in 2009 with a $25 million debut.

Even so, this year's combination of newcomers and strong holdovers lifted overall business slightly. Total movie revenues came in at about $100 million, up 3.8 percent from the same weekend last year, according to Hollywood.com.

Chris Aronson, head of distribution at 20th Century Fox, said the "Wall Street" sequel came in at the high end of the studio's expectations for opening weekend. With nearly two-thirds of the "Wall Street" audience older than 30, the studio hopes the movie will have a long run.

"If there's one thing we know about adult audiences, they don't rush out. But they do keep coming," Aronson said. "It's somewhat unique to have a character that's 22 years old to have such a great second act, and we think we have that with Gordon Gekko."

Several films debuted strongly in limited release.

Woody Allen's latest ensemble tale "You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger" opened with $163,474 in six theaters, averaging $27,246 a cinema. The Sony Pictures Classics release stars Naomi Watts, Anthony Hopkins, Josh Brolin and Freida Pinto.

Paramount's documentary "Waiting for `Superman,'" which examines the ills of America's public schools, premiered with $141,000 in four theaters for a $35,250 average. The film is directed by Davis Guggenheim, who made the Academy Award winner "An Inconvenient Truth."

Lionsgate's thriller "Buried," starring Ryan Reynolds as an American buried alive by terrorists in Iraq, opened with $104,500 in 11 theaters, averaging $9,500.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

1. **"Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps,"** $19 million.
2. **"Legend of the Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole,"** $16.3 million.
3. **"The Town,"** $16 million.
4. **"Easy A,"** $10.7 million.
5. **"You Again,"** $8.3 million.
6. **"Devil,"** $6.5 million.
7. **"Resident Evil: Afterlife,"** $4.9 million.
8. **"Alpha and Omega,"** $4.7 million.
9. **"Takers,"** $1.7 million.
10. **"Inception,"** $1.2 million.

HOLLYWOOD THEATERS

Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!

Located near Price Costco in San Jose Saipan MP • 234-9000

POWER 99 FM SAIPAN, CNMI

$5.50 Bargain Matinees - All Shows Before 6PM
$5.50 All Day Admission For Seniors
$4.50 All Day Admission For Kids (ages 3-11)
$5.50 Student Admission with Valid I.D.
$5.50 Military with Valid I.D.

TIMEWARP TUESDAY $5.50 ALL SHOWS ALL DAY/NIGHT (EXCLUDING HOLIDAYS AND RESTRICTED FEATURES)

RESERVE TICKETS ONLINE AT www.gohollywood.com

dts DOLBY DIGITAL STADIUM SEATING WITH HIGH-BACK LOVESEATS

For Friday, September 24th though Thursday, September 30th
OPEN SEVEN DAYS A WEEK

NOW SHOWING

Legend Of The Guardians: The Owls of Ga'Hoole

Friday		4:20	7:20	9:30
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	9:30
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon through Thurs		4:20	7:20	

Sam Neil, Geoffrey Rush
Fantasy, Action • Rated PG

Synopsis
Kathryn Lasky's children's book series comes to the screen with this animated adaptation from director Zack Snyder (Watchmen) and Village Roadshow Pictures. The plot details a mythical race of barn owls whose realm is threatened by sinister outside forces.

Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon through Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Michael Douglas, Shia LeBeouf
Drama • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
Famous onscreen villain Gordon Gekko (Michael Douglas) returns to the big screen with Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps, once again directed by Oliver Stone. This installment promises a "ripped from the headlines" plot, with Gekko teaching co-star Shia LaBeouf the ins and outs of criminal investments. Frost/Nixon's Frank Langella co-stars along with Susan Sarandon.

You Again

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon through Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Jamie Lee Curtis, Sigourney Weaver
Comedy • Rated PG

Synopsis
A woman (Kristen Bell) discovers that her brother is marrying an old arch nemesis of hers from high school in this Buena Vista comedy from director Andy Fickman (Race to Witch Mountain).

Devil

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:40
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:40
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon through Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Chris Mesina, Geoffrey Arend
Thriller, Horror • Rated PG 13

Alpha And Omega

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:50
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:50
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon through Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Justin Long, Christina Ricci
Children's, Family • Rated PG

The Town

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon through Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Ben Affleck, Rebecca Hall
Crime • Rated R

Resident Evil: Afterlife

Friday		4:30	7:30	10:00
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	10:00
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon through Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Mila Jovovich, Ali Larter
Action, Horror • Rated R

● NO PASSES ■ NO PASSES OR SUPER SAVERS
GIFT CERTIFICATES AVAILABLE • R-RATED FILMS REQUIRE PHOTO I.D.
www.gohollywood.com

New Muslim comic book superhero on the way

NEW YORK (AP)—Comic book fans will soon be getting their first glimpse at an unlikely new superhero—a Muslim boy in a wheelchair with superpowers.

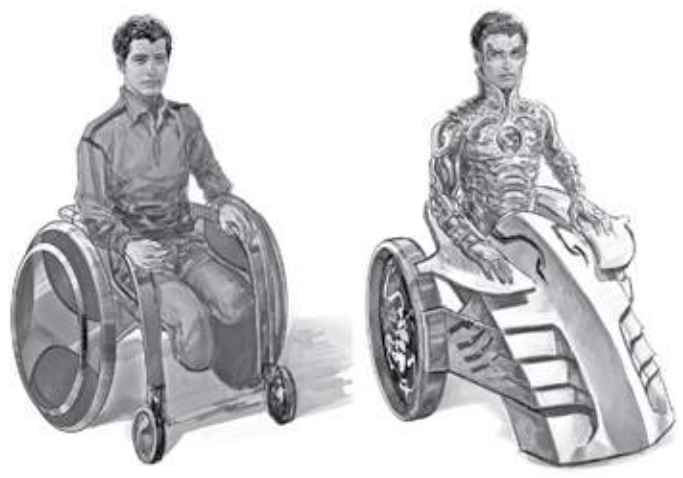
The new superhero is the brainchild of a group of disabled young Americans and Syrians who were brought together last month in Damascus by the Open Hands Intiative, a non-profit organization founded by U.S. philanthropist and businessman Jay T. Snyder.

The superhero's appearance hasn't been finalized, but an early sketch shows a Muslim boy who lost his legs in a landmine accident and later becomes the Silver Scorpion after discovering he has the power to control metal with his mind.

Sharad Devarajan, co-founder and CEO of Liquid Comics whose company is now turning the young people's ideas into pictures and a story line, said the goal is to release the first comic book—launching the disabled Muslim superhero—in early November in both Arabic and English.

Snyder says he was inspired by President Barack Obama's effort to reach out to the Muslim world in his January 2009 inaugural address. Last month, Snyder flew 12 disabled Americans to Damascus to meet their Syrian peers, and one of their main goals was to come up with ideas and story lines for the new superhero.

"The only limit was the imagination these kids had—the opportunity for a great story," said Snyder, a comic book collector who heads HBJ Investments LLC. "They helped create something by their combined talents, and that becomes a gift to the world."



AP

In this artwork provided by Liquid Comics, LLC, the "Silver Scorpion" is shown. The new superhero is Muslim, who loses his legs in a tragic landmine accident and must learn to come to terms with the reality of his disability while learning to use his newfound power to fight for social inclusion, equity and justice.

Devarajan found the young people's imagination to be quite amazing.

"The opening question we asked the kids was if you could have any superpower what would it be? I've asked that question in many different groups before and the typical answers are always the ones you'd expect—flying, reading minds, or being super strong," Devarajan said.

"The fascinating thing about this group was that I don't think I heard any one of those three," he said.

"Each of their ideas was so originally distinct, whether the Syrian kids or the U.S. kids," he said, adding that perhaps because of their disabilities, the young people think as individuals without being influenced by outsiders. One girl, for example, wanted to have the power to combine the energy of the moon and the sun.

Devarajan said it was noteworthy that none of the young people wanted the hero's power to be something that cured their disability.

Jackson's wife: 'My heart will heal' after affair

CHICAGO (AP)—The wife of U.S. Rep. Jesse Jackson Jr. said she and her husband have undergone marital counseling and spiritual therapy since he told her nearly two years ago of an extramarital affair.

"He said it was over. I was mortified and in agony, but he knew if I found out any other way it would be over. That the only way to save our marriage was to come clean," Chicago Alderman Sandi Jackson said in an interview published in Sunday editions of the Chicago Sun-Times. "There were sleepless nights and I started losing hair and I told him I would only consider staying if we got into therapy."

She said she immediately questioned herself and whether it was her fault, but she never wanted details. When word of the affair became public last week, she said it was like opening the wound again.

Jesse Jackson Jr., a Democrat, has been dogged by corruption allegations in connection with former Gov. Rod Blagojevich since December 2008, shortly after Blagojevich was arrested.

Last week, more allegations surfaced that Jackson told a businessman to offer Blagojevich $6 million in exchange for an appointment to Barack Obama's former U.S. Senate seat. The businessman also told the FBI he purchased plane tickets for a woman identified as a "social acquaintance" of Jackson.

Jackson, who has not been charged with a crime, has repeatedly denied wrongdoing in connection with Blagojevich.

House leader: Colbert was an 'embarrassment'

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House's No. 2 Democratic leader said Sunday that comedian Stephen Colbert's testimony last week on immigration was "inappropriate" and "an embarrassment."

Democratic Rep. Zoe Lofgren of California invited Colbert to appear before the House Judiciary Committee. But other Democrats weren't happy about her decision.

The committee chairman, Rep. John Conyers, D-Mich., asked Colbert to leave the room at the beginning of the hearing because the comedian had no expertise in farm labor issues or immigration policy.

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland told "Fox News Sunday" he thought the episode was more of an embarrassment to Colbert than to the House. But, he added, "I think it was inappropriate" that he testified.

Lofgren spokesman Pedro Ribeiro declined comment Sunday.

AP

Comedian Stephen Colbert, host of the Colbert Report, prepares to testify on Capitol Hill in Washington, Friday, Sept. 24, 2010, before the House Immigration, Citizenship, Refugees, Border Security and International Law subcommittee hearing on Protecting America's Harvest.

Oft-mocked NY gov. gets in jabs of his own on SNL

NEW YORK (AP)—Mocked for years on "Saturday Night Live" as a clueless blind man, the governor of New York appeared on the show's season premiere to dish right back.

Gov. David Paterson came on the show's "Weekend Update" segment early Sunday and interrupted cast member Fred Armisen, who was in character as the governor. Armisen plays Paterson as a buffoon with a past of youthful drug use and womanizing who loves to razz neighboring New Jersey.

In an earlier season, Armisen held a chart illustrating the state's job losses upside down.

During "Weekend Update," Armisen launched into a clownish take on the New York governor's race—"It's like ordering at the Olive Garden. No matter what you get, it's going to be a greasy mess," he said of the two candidates—before segueing into a crack about New Jersey and then Paterson's driving.

He was interrupted with a cry of "Stop! Stop! Stop!" from Paterson, who came onto the set amid cheers from the audience.

Paterson has said the show's parodies hurt disabled people who can't fight back. He said during the show that he has a good sense of humor but jokes about the disabled are "sophomoric and stupid."

But Paterson held his own with Armisen and cast member Seth Meyers, poking fun at Armisen for playing Paterson with a beard. The governor said he'd shaved his a year ago. "Are you blind?" he asked Armisen, getting a laugh from the audience.

Paterson, who is not running for election in November, joked that being governor is a lot like "Saturday Night Live": "There are a lot of characters, it's funny for 10 minutes and then you just want it to be over."

Paterson has been investigated for taking free World Series tickets, which he and aides later paid for, and for intervening in a domestic violence case involving a top aide.

Paterson said that despite his disability, he's been one of the few people who can "see what we need to do" in New York. He then ticked off some of his political accomplishments.

"I'm blind, I'm governor and I'm still alive," he said, clearly enjoying himself.

"Now how much better do you want me to be?" he asked, and laughed.

Armisen and Meyers apologized for the show's parody of the governor and promised to be more respectful of the disabled.

"Blind Americans are incredibly capable and we also rely on our other senses as well," the governor said.

Meyers asked whether it was true that other senses are heightened for the blind, setting up Paterson for one more jab.

"Just by sense of smell, I can tell that there are 15 people in this audience from New Jersey," the governor joked.

Green Day singer joins Broadway's 'American Idiot'

NEW YORK (AP)—Green Day front man Billie Joe Armstrong is briefly joining the cast of "American Idiot," the Broadway musical he helped create based on the band's 2004 Grammy Award-winning album.

The show's producers announced Sunday that Armstrong will take over the role of persuasive drug dealer St. Jimmy for eight performances from Tuesday through Oct. 3. before leaving town to kick off his band's South American tour.

It's the Broadway debut for Armstrong, who composed and co-wrote the musical.

Armstrong temporarily replaces actor Tony Vincent, who's on leave until Oct. 12 for what producers call a personal family matter.

The show follows an antihero who flees a deadening suburbia and descends into sex, drugs and fierce guitar playing in his quest to find himself in the big city.

AP

In this Sept. 13, 2010 file photo, Billie Joe Armstrong of Green Day performs with cast members of the Broadway musical "American Idiot" at halftime during an NFL football game between the New York Jets and the Baltimore Ravens at New Meadowlands Stadium in East Rutherford, N.J.

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Man claims wrongful firing from Turner's NM ranch

RATON, New Mexico (AP)—A former wildlife manager for a northern New Mexico ranch owned by media mogul Ted Turner alleges he was wrongfully fired from the ranch after a new general manager began pushing religion on employees. James Baker's complaint does not charge religious discrimination, but says his three-decade-plus career at Vermejo Park Ranch went sour because he didn't attend Bible classes run by general manager Mark Kossler, according to The Santa Fe New Mexican newspaper. Baker's lawsuit alleges that almost immediately after being hired, Kossler began preferential hiring and firing practices, based on attendance at workplace religious services he instituted. Defendants are Kossler and Turner Enterprises Inc., an Atlanta-based firm owned by Turner. Kossler declined to comment and referred questions Atlanta lawyer Jeffrey Mokotoff. The lawyer said he had not seen the complaint and could not comment.

New Mexico novel headed to big screen

SANTA FE, N.M. (AP)—A film based on New Mexico author Rudolfo Anaya's novel, "Bless Me, Ultima" will shoot in the Santa Fe area beginning in October. The production is expected to hire 150 New Mexico residents for the cast and crew. "Bless Me, Ultima" chronicles the coming-of-age story of Antonio, a young boy growing up in New Mexico during World War II, and his relationship with Ultima, an elderly traditional Hispanic healer, or curandera. The novel was one of 30 books selected for The Big Read, a National Endowment for the Arts initiative designed to revitalize the role of literary reading in American popular culture. It also was selected to be included in the 2009 United States Academic Decathlon. Gov. Bill Richardson announced the film last week.

Demi Moore, Australian magazine reach settlement

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP)—A legal battle between actress Demi Moore and an Australian magazine over photos it published of a private post-Oscars party thrown by the star has been settled out of court.

Moore sued Pacific Magazines, the publisher of New Idea, for printing pictures taken at a 2008 party that show herself, her daughter Rumer Willis, and other stars.

Moore lodged a claim in 2008 stating she made an agreement with an event organizer that gave her copyright of the photos. She sought unspecified damages.

A trial was to start in Melbourne Federal Court on Monday, but the judge said the parties had reached a settlement. The terms were not disclosed.

Moore was not in court Monday.

Father's walk down the aisle is fraught with family strife

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby

DEAR ABBY: In response to "Resentful in Michigan" (Aug. 2), I think you missed the mark. Etiquette and social mores may dictate that it's acceptable for a man to give his future daughter-in-law away, but "Resentful" was speaking from a place of pain that is valid.

Her father didn't walk her down the aisle because her mother's job was more important to them, which made her feel she was second to the job in her parents' hearts. Now her emotions are telling her that her brother's fiancee is more important as well.

If she doesn't speak her mind, her resentment could be redirected to her brother and his new family and cause irreparable damage. She should address this with her brother to help them understand that sitting and watching her dad walk another woman down the aisle under these circumstances would be devastating. The brother's fiancee could ask another relative to escort her—or walk down alone since this is her third trip to the altar.

At least the father, while not understanding "Resentful's" pain, is taking her feelings into consideration. Now, if her brother and his fiancee will try to understand her feelings, they'll be validated and an amicable solution can be found.

HEATHER IN RICHARDSON, TEXAS

DEAR HEATHER: You are not the only reader who disagreed with my response to that letter. I reasoned that the writer did not have the right to decide what role her father would or would not play in her brother's wedding. I also suspected that the reason her parents did not attend her wedding—much less participate—may have been they did not approve of the groom or the circumstances under which she was being married.

However, because many people felt my answer was insensitive to the writer's feelings, I'll share some reactions from readers:

DEAR ABBY: The father was "too busy" to walk her down the aisle but now he'd do it for his son's future wife? Her father didn't even offer an apology or try to understand. He said only that he wouldn't walk his son's fiancee down the aisle if "Resentful" was hurt by it. If he had apologized and admitted he was wrong not to have done it for his daughter, she could have forgiven him. I don't blame her for being resentful!

ALONDRA IN LONDON, ONTARIO

DEAR ABBY: Speaking from personal experience, there are few things worse than being rejected by your parents. You should have rebuked them in the strongest possible way. To deny their daughter on her most important day, then grant the same privilege to an outsider (on her third wedding, no less) is the height of insensitivity. Her parents are horrible. Her feelings are normal, natural, justified and deserved validation. Shame on you for siding with the parents!

PATRICK IN MESQUITE, NEV.

DEAR ABBY: That woman has every right to feel as she does. Her brother was selfish for not considering his sister's deep disappointment on the biggest day of her life. As a minister, I encourage family members to work through their hurts with each other. But forcing someone to pretend all is well when it isn't doesn't help the healing process. It could drive the family even further apart.

PAUL T. IN NEW YORK

DEAR ABBY: I have a suggestion. Since the brother's fiancee is on her third marriage, why not ask one of her ex-husbands to give her away. I'm sure he'd be happy to.

JOANNE IN WATERTOWN, WIS.

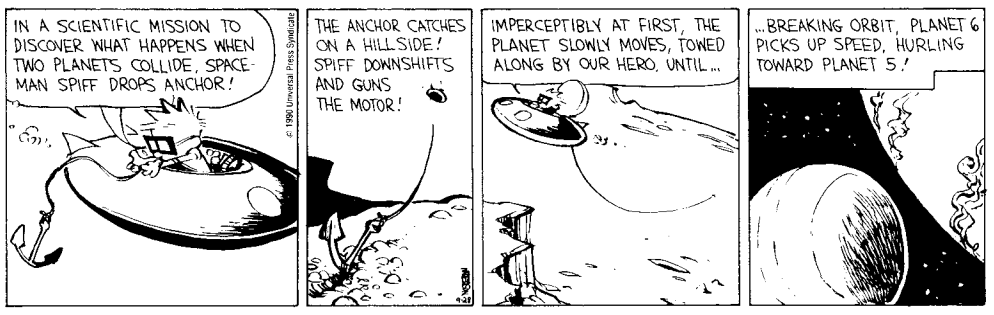
Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

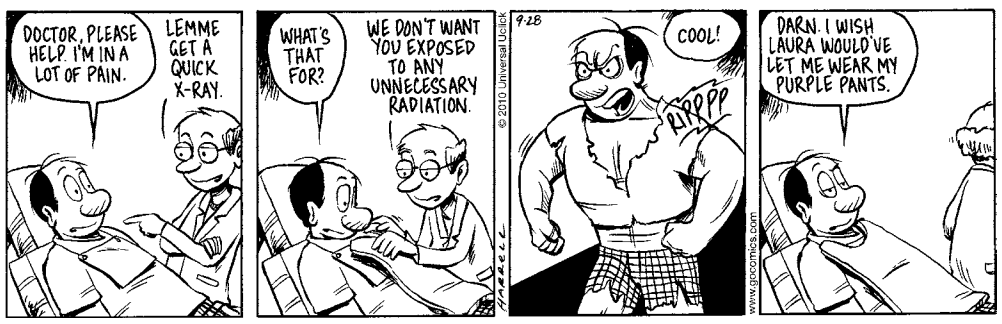

IN A SCIENTIFIC MISSION TO DISCOVER WHAT HAPPENS WHEN TWO PLANETS COLLIDE, SPACEMAN SPIFF DROPS ANCHOR!
© 1990 Universal Press Syndicate
THE ANCHOR CATCHES ON A HILLSIDE! SPIFF DOWNSHIFTS AND GUNS THE MOTOR!
IMPERCEPTIBLY AT FIRST, THE PLANET SLOWLY MOVES, TOWED ALONG BY OUR HERO. UNTIL...
...BREAKING ORBIT, PLANET 6 PICKS UP SPEED, HURLING TOWARD PLANET 5!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


DOCTOR, PLEASE HELP. I'M IN A LOT OF PAIN.
LEMME GET A QUICK X-RAY.
WHAT'S THAT FOR?
WE DON'T WANT YOU EXPOSED TO ANY UNNECESSARY RADIATION.
9-28
COOL!
RRPPP
DARN. I WISH LAURA WOULD'VE LET ME WEAR MY PURPLE PANTS.
© 2010 Universal Uclick
www.gocomics.com

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

WOULD YOU LIKE TREE-KILLING PAPER OR LAND-FILL-CLOGGING PLASTIC?
NEITHER. I BROUGHT MY OWN RE-USABLE BAGS.
WHAT ARE THEY MADE OF?
© 2010 Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Uclick
9-28
BABY SEAL SKIN.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

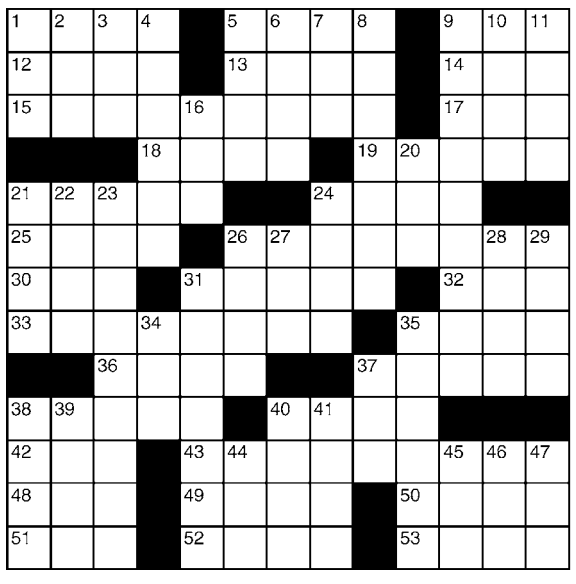
ACROSS
1 Huck Finn's carrier
5 Staff leader?
9 Half a dance
12 Look lasciviously
13 Peru's capital
14 Communal pronoun
15 Aplenty
17 Last (Abbr.)
18 Nitwit
19 Long and lean
21 Aden's land
24 Brewer's oven
25 Smell
26 People on parade
30 Actress Lucy
31 Sweetheart
32 Buck's mate
33 Noted TV documentarian
35 Wild hog
36 Istanbul resident
37 Redhead's secret?
38 Thorax
40 High-decibel
42 Smack
43 Water sources
48 Hostel
49 Incite
50 Eye layer
51 Sch. org.
52 Privation
53 Gridlock noise

DOWN
1 Filch
2 Past
3 Winter woe
4 Sore
5 Movie sample
6 A bowl of cherries?
7 Ostrich's cousin
8 Mistaken idea
9 Anticipated
10 Bruce Banner's alter ego
11 Bohemian
16 Heavy weight
20 Fire residue
21 Egg center
22 Falco or McClurg
23 Sicilian spouter
24 Raw minerals
26 TV alien
27 Curry of NBC News
28 Horse of a different color?
29 Antitoxins
31 Injurious
34 Urban transport
35 Smear
37 Islander's home
38 Intel product
39 Suggestion
40 Drags along
41 Change for a five
44 Acapulco gold
45 "— Got a Secret"
46 Born
47 Potential syrup

Solution time: 21 mins.

W	I	N	S	■	A	R	E	■	R	A	S	P
A	L	O	P	E	C	I	A	■	E	V	E	R
G	O	V	E	R	N	O	R	■	F	I	L	E
■	■	■	W	O	E	■	L	O	U	D	L	Y
A	S	S	E	S	■	C	O	W	S	■	■	■
S	H	E	D	■	G	O	B	L	E	T	S	■
H	A	G	■	P	E	R	E	S	■	E	W	E
■	G	O	D	S	O	N	S	■	B	E	A	T
■	■	■	O	I	L	Y	■	O	O	M	P	H
C	A	R	U	S	O	■	S	A	M	■	■	■
U	S	E	R	■	G	O	L	F	B	A	L	L
R	E	E	L	■	I	N	A	S	E	N	S	E
L	A	D	Y	■	C	A	P	■	R	I	D	E

Yesterday's answer 9-28



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kirsten Prout, 20; Hilary Duff, 23; Mira Sorvino, 43; Janeane Garofalo, 46

Happy Birthday: It's never too late to change your mind, your direction or your attitude. New beliefs incorporated into the lifestyle and traditions that suit you best will enable you to form a solid and secure base in which to build your future. Rethink your past strategy. Once you eliminate what is holding you back, the rest will be easy. Your numbers are 5, 11, 17, 20, 29, 32, 38

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Consider what you used to enjoy doing. It will benefit you to review the past in order to make the right choice now. Someone you liked but never got a chance to really get to know will give you another opportunity. ✪✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Taking the initiative and making suggestions that will help others feel confident about your capabilities will lead to a successful outcome. Your willingness to adapt and accommodate the situation you are dealing with will help you prosper. ✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Take a serious look at what you have accomplished and how you present who you are. You may want to spend a little time fine-tuning. Once you feel comfortable and confident with your direction and presentation, you can make great strides forward. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Do what's being asked of you quickly and efficiently so you can do things you enjoy. Love is highlighted. A romantic encounter for two should be penciled in for the evening hours. Don't let demands being put on you stop you from having fun. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Gauge what you do and say, especially when dealing with family or personal matters. You will face an emotional blowout with someone you've treated poorly. Make amends before you push someone away who will be difficult to replace. ✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You need to make a couple of changes in order to stay on track and enjoy life's little pleasures. Love is on the rise. Don't let your emotions stand in the way of connecting with someone who shares your interests and can enhance your personal life. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Acquiring knowledge and sharing your ideas and concepts will allow you to weigh what your next step should be. Don't let someone you are close to or live with discourage you with negative input or criticism. ✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Before you make a move or change your personal life, clear up any money or legal problems you face. Make sure you know exactly where you stand before making a financial commitment. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Preparation is what will count in the end. Change is all around you but acceptance will be what makes the changes worth your while. Don't get caught up in your own melodrama. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

COPYRIGHT 2007 UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Someone is likely to take over if you don't show initiative. Take control before you have no other choice than to follow. A life experience will lead to a greater realization about who you are and what you are capable of doing. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Take great care of your personal and financial affairs. The prospects available to you are greater than you think. Added discipline will enable you to overcome bad habits or stick to a regime that will help you be your very best. ✪✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Don't put trust in what someone else tells you. Recognize what you do have to offer as well as what you might be lacking. Honesty, integrity and patience will all be required if you intend to get ahead. ✪✪

Birthday Baby: You have stamina, grace and the will to make a difference. You are intelligent, curious, intense and disciplined.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

2			4			8		
		8			7			
	6		1					7
1		3		6			2	
			2	5	1			
	7			4		5		1
6					9		7	
			8			3		
		1			2			5

Difficulty Level ★★ 9/28

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

5	9	8	7	6	2	4	3	1
4	3	1	5	9	8	7	2	6
2	7	6	4	1	3	9	5	8
9	2	3	8	5	6	1	7	4
1	8	7	2	3	4	5	6	9
6	5	4	1	7	9	3	8	2
3	1	2	9	8	5	6	4	7
7	4	5	6	2	1	8	9	3
8	6	9	3	4	7	2	1	5

Difficulty Level ★ 9/27

©2010 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

BACKYARD GARDENING **Solution: 10 letters**

V	S	S	P	R	U	N	I	N	G	R	O	W	T	H
Y	E	L	S	R	A	P	A	R	S	N	I	P	S	O
S	O	G	E	A	E	D	O	R	E	P	P	E	P	E
E	T	A	E	V	R	S	I	L	(D)	(I)	(R)	(T)	O	S
D	A	R	R	T	O	G	E	S	L	F	A	S	T	M
I	M	L	A	R	A	H	R	R	H	E	I	N	A	O
C	O	I	E	W	A	B	S	E	V	E	N	A	T	O
I	T	C	S	T	B	N	L	T	E	E	R	E	O	R
T	R	E	E	S	T	E	G	E	O	N	T	B	E	H
S	O	D	V	L	I	U	R	E	S	R	S	R	S	S
E	N	O	O	I	E	F	C	R	C	O	R	N	I	U
P	I	E	L	O	S	R	T	E	I	N	E	A	I	M
I	O	L	G	S	F	G	I	Z	E	E	E	K	C	M
C	N	N	I	A	T	N	U	O	F	R	S	F	A	E
K	I	L	O	C	C	O	R	B	R	A	B	U	H	R

© 2010 Universal Uclick www.wonderword.com Join us on Facebook 9/28

Arrange, Beans, Broccoli, Bugs, Carrots, Corn, Dirt, Fence, Food, Fountain, Fresh, Garlic, Gloves, Grass, Greens, Growth, Herbs, Hoes, Lettuce, Mushrooms, Onion, Parsley, Parsnips, Pepper, Pesticides, Pick, Pollen, Potatoes, Preserve, Pruning, Radish, Rain, Rake, Rhubarb, Shovels, Soil, Strawberries, Summer, Ties, Tomatoes, Tools, Trees, Trim, Vegetables

Yesterday's Answer: Jitterbug

Treasury 7 Send check or money order for $10.95 each plus $3.25 postage and handling each ($14.20 total each, U.S. funds only) for the first volume, $1.50 p&h for each additional volume, to Universal Uclick, Attn: Wonderword, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480 Order online at upuzzles.com.

CLASSIFIED ADS

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 1-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Ocean View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Sunset View Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view.

FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nigh-time security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

3 Bedroom 2 ½ Bath House in San Vicente 1,800 sq. meter yard. Price negotiable. Call 256-0280 or 989-3365

WANTED TO BUY

Looking for used cars. Year must be 2000 & above. We pay cash! Please call 287-7676.

WHATZIT Solution: For heaven's sake

HOUSE FOR RENT
5 Bedrooms • 2 Bath
24-hours Water with filter
2-Storey with beautiful garden
and private fence
$1000.00 a month. Located at Papago
Serious inquiries only.
PLEASE CALL 285-4390

Looking for
CAUCASIAN EXTRA MODEL
FOR TV-COMMERCIAL
MALE/FEMALE
20 – 60 years old
Please call: 323-2101/888-3245 or email:
goodday_saipan@yahoo.com

QQ RENT A CAR
Starting as low as... **$25.00**
without Insurance
Call: 233-9889, 483-8866 or 233-8866
$100 Security Deposit Required
Please visit QQ Store Garapan (2nd Road behind Fire Station)
Some conditions may apply

Looking to buy cow and goat
Please call 483-0789

WANTED
For Immediate Hire
H.E. OPERATOR
(w/ 5 years experience)
Apply in person at
Conwood Products, Inc.
Chalan Laulau, Middle Road

CLICK IT OR TICKET
DAY & NIGHT

INSTRUCTORS NEEDED

TO TEACH AT

NORTHERN MARIANAS TRADES INSTITUTE

Looking for men or women to teach in any of the following trades: carpentry, plumbing, painting, masonry, small engine repairs, welding, and other skills needed.

High pay part-time with exciting opportunities to teach young eager men and women.

CALL NMTI AT 235-6684 FOR DETAILS

Recky R. Jack and Sintosy S. Suda
P.O. Box 506188
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No. 233-0994

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter Of The Petition To Appoint General Guardianship For:	)	FCD GU CIVIL ACTION NO. 10-0451
R.J.S. **T.J.**	)	NOTICE OF HEARING
Minor Child	)	
By:	)	
Otilia Jack	)	
Petitioners	)	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on October 4, 2010, at 1:30 p.m. in Courtroom 205A, before Associates Judge Kenneth L. Govendo.

Dated this 25th day of August, 2010.

BERNADITA SABLAN
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

Saipan Tribune's Classifieds Section gives you the right exposure without hurting your pockets. Stretch your dollar and get results.

CLASSIFIED LINER ADS

Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	$15	$27
• 5-Liner	$24	$39
• 3-Liner with picture	$24	$42
• 5-Liner with picture	$36	$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

Paradise
Nirvana
Utopia
Shangri-La
sake

WHATZIT? © 2010 www.whatzit.com
Distributed by Universal Uclick

www.facebook.com/dingbatsgames

Find today's solution in this section

Edwards' long TD helps Jets beat Dolphins

MIAMI (AP)—Benched at the start because of a drunken-driving arrest, Braylon Edwards turned a short pass into a 67-yard touchdown in the third quarter as the Jets beat the Miami Dolphins 31-23 on Sunday.

Mark Sanchez threw three touchdown passes for the second week in a row, and the Jets forged a three-way tie atop the AFC East with the Dolphins and Patriots. All are 2-1.

Edwards was arrested in Manhattan around 5 a.m. Tuesday and apologized the next day. The Jets decided to suspend him for one quarter.

The Dolphins then drove 64 yards to the 5 with 34 seconds remaining, but Chad Henne's fourth-down pass was deflected by Eric Smith and intercepted in the end zone by Drew Coleman.

Falcons 27, Saints 24

At New Orleans, Matt Bryant did what Garrett Hartley could not, drilling a 46-yard field goal with 1:55 left in overtime to lift Atlanta past New Orleans.

The Saints appeared to have a thrilling victory in hand when Drew Brees drove New Orleans deep into Falcons territory to set up a 29-yard field goal in overtime. Instead, Hartley hooked the kick to the left for his third miss this season.

Matt Ryan passed for 228 yards and touchdowns of 13 yards to Tony Gonzalez and 22 yards to Roddy White to give the Falcons (2-1) their second straight win.

Cowboys 27, Texans 13

At Houston, Tony Romo threw two touchdown passes to Roy Williams, and Marion Barber ran for another score as Dallas got its first win.

The Cowboys' defense got its first three takeaways of the season and held Houston's top-ranked offense to 340 yards. DeMarcus Ware sacked Matt Schaub three times, and the Dallas secondary limited All-Pro receiver Andre Johnson to four catches for 64 yards.

David Buehler kicked two field goals and the Cowboys (1-2) turned in a dominant performance after starting 0-2 for the first time since 2001.

The announced crowd was 71,456, a record for a Texans game at Reliant Stadium.

Steelers 38, Buccaneers 13

At Tampa, Florida, Charlie Batch threw for 186 yards and two long touchdowns to Mike Wallace in his first start in nearly three years, helping Pittsburgh remain unbeaten.

Wallace scored on catches of 46 and 41 yards during a stretch where Pittsburgh scored on four straight possessions to build a 28-6 halftime lead.

The Steelers improved to 3-0 for the first time since 2007, despite playing without Ben Roethlisberger, who's serving a four-game suspension for violating the NFL's personal conduct policy.

Vikings 24, Lions 10

At Minneapolis, Adrian Peterson sped around the corner for a career-long 80-yard touchdown run late in the third quarter, spurring Minnesota to its first win of the season.

Brett Favre took all kinds of hard hits in the pocket and threw two interceptions while Minnesota's passing attack frequently misfired, but Peterson picked up the slack with 160 yards on 23 carries. His game-breaking run around right end put Minnesota up 24-10.

Colts 27, Broncos 13

At Denver, Peyton Manning threw for three touchdowns even without Anthony Gonzalez and Pierre Garcon to lead Indianapolis over the grieving Denver.

The Broncos (1-2) were playing with heavy hearts following the death of teammate Kenny McKinley.

Kyle Orton threw for a career-best 476 yards on 37-of-57 passing and the Broncos outgained the Colts (2-1) by more than 100 yards. But they failed to get into the end zone on five trips inside the 20, settling for two field goals and turning over the ball on downs three times.

Eagles 28, Jaguars 3

At Jacksonville, Florida, Michael Vick threw three touchdown passes and ran for another score for Philadelphia.

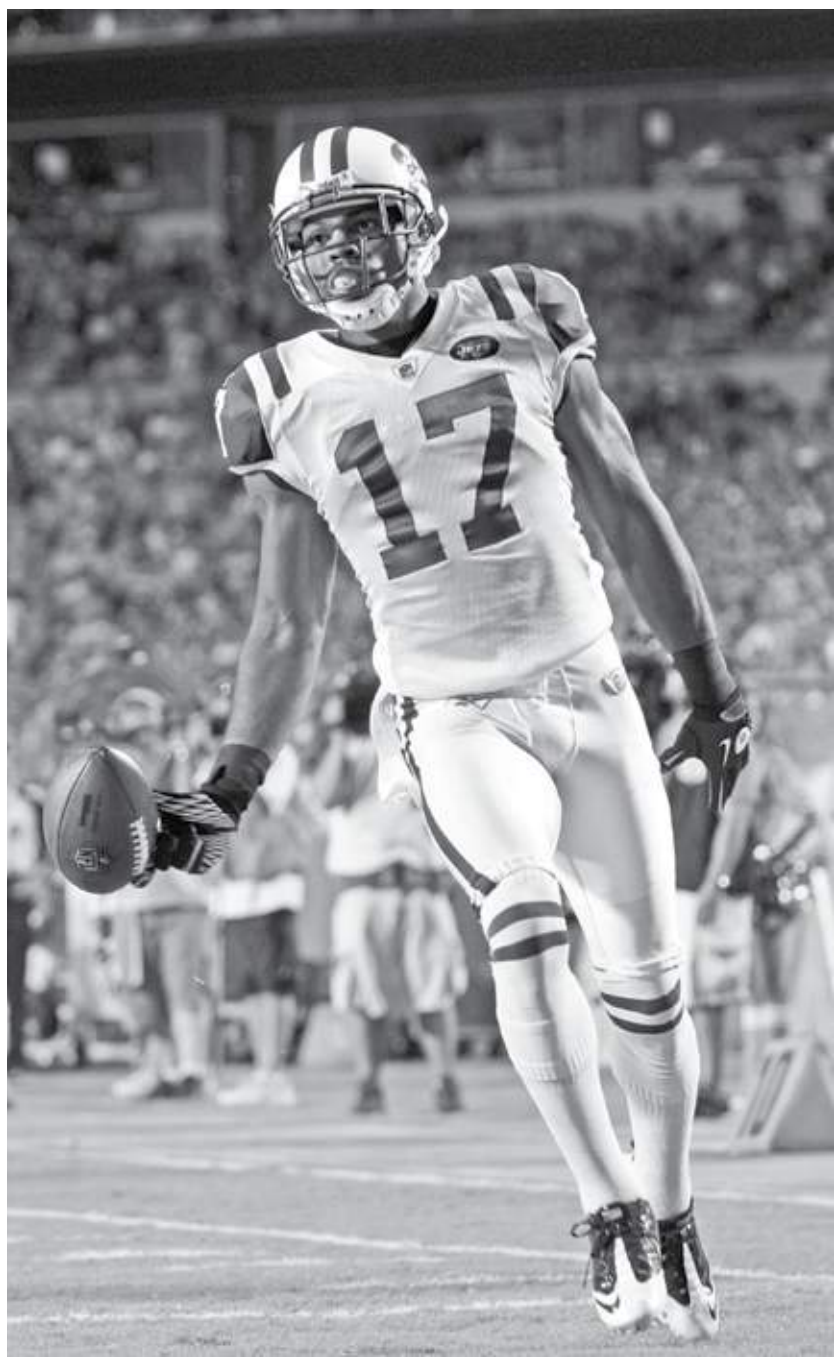
Vick completed 17 of 31 passes for 291 yards, mostly staying in the pocket and picking apart Jacksonville's beleaguered secondary. One of the few times he did run, he broke a tackle, juked another defender and scored from 17 yards out.

He made coach Andy Reid's quarterback decision look like the right one.

Rams 30, Redskins 16

At St. Louis, rookie quarterback Sam Bradford threw for 235 yards and a touchdown and backup running back Kenneth Darby had the go-ahead score to help St. Louis end a 14-game home losing streak.

Bradford, the No. 1 overall draft pick, was 23 for 37 and completed passes to nine receivers. He had one interception.



AP

New York Jets Wide receiver Braylon Edwards (17) scores a touchdown in the third quarter against the Miami Dolphins during an NFL football game in Miami, Sunday, Sept. 26, 2010.

Seahawks 27, Chargers 20

At Seattle, Leon Washington returned two second-half kickoffs for touchdowns of 101 and 99 yards, making to give Seattle the win.

Washington took the opening kickoff of the second half 101 yards to give Seattle a 17-0 lead. Phillip Rivers brought the Chargers (1-2) back, tying the game at 20 on a 12-yard throw to Antonio Gates and a 2-point conversion to Legedu Naanee with 6:39 left.

Fifteen seconds later, Seattle (2-1) was back in front. Washington got lost in a pile, squirted free and raced 99 yards to give Seattle a 27-20 advantage.

Cardinals 24, Raiders 23

Ay Glendale, Arizona, Sebastian Janikowski missed a 32-yard field goal as the game ended to allow Arizona to escape in a game littered with mistakes by both teams.

The wide-left kick came after a pass interference call against Arizona's Dominique Rodgers-Cromartie. Janikowski missed two others in the game, a 41-yarder and a 58-yarder. Both were wide right.

Patriots 38, Bills 30

At Foxborough, Massachusetts, Tom Brady threw three touchdown passes, two to Randy Moss, as New England topped Buffalo for the 14th straight time.

First-round draft pick C.J. Spiller scored his first NFL touchdowns on a 5-yard pass from Ryan Fitzpatrick and a 95-yard kickoff return. But Buffalo's last chance faded when Fitzpatrick—who started in place of Trent Edwards—threw an interception to Brandon Meriweather with 3 minutes left.

Chiefs 31, 49ers 10

At Kansas City, Missouri, Matt Cassel's three touchdown passes included a trick play that caught San Francisco flat-footed as Kansas City remained unbeaten.

After starting 0-4 a year ago and winning only 10 games the previous three seasons combined, the Chiefs are 3-0 for the first time since 2003.

Bengals 20, Panthers 7

At Charlotte, North Carolina, Carson Palmer shook off two interceptions to throw a clinching touchdown pass to Cedric Benson midway through the fourth quarter as Cincinnati spoiled Jimmy Clausen's first NFL start.

Cincinnati (2-1) snapped a five-game road losing streak despite a rash of turnovers and penalties. But the Panthers (0-3) couldn't take advantage, with Clausen throwing for 188 yards and Carolina committing four turnovers.

Ravens 24, Browns 17

At Baltimore, Anquan Boldin caught three touchdown passes from Joe Flacco as Baltimore rallied for the win.

Boldin made himself right at home in Baltimore, catching eight passes for 142 yards.

After a career-high four interceptions last week in a loss to Cincinnati, Flacco went 22 for 31 for 262 yards without an interception. He had six turnovers in his first two games.

Titans 29, Giants 10

At East Rutherford, New Jersey, Chris Johnson ran for 125 yards and two touchdowns, and Vince Young threw for a TD as Tennessee's defense forced three turnovers by New York.

The victory was the 10th straight against an NFC opponent for the Titans (2-1) and their fifth straight over the Giants (1-2).

Nets GM Billy King still waiting to make a deal

In this March 15, 2010, file photo, Denver Nuggets' Carmelo Anthony (15) reacts after scoring a basket against the Houston Rockets during the fourth quarter of a NBA basketball game in Houston.

AP

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. (AP)—The New Jersey Nets' attempt to acquire Carmelo Anthony is in a holding pattern.

A person close to the trade talks told The Associated Press on Sunday that the Nets are waiting for the Nuggets to sign off on a deal that would bring Anthony to New Jersey and also involve Charlotte and Utah. The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the negotiations were ongoing.

While he couldn't talk directly about Anthony, Nets general manager Billy King acknowledged he had been working on a trade.

"I would say that we're exploring everything," King said Sunday. "But there's no deal. We have nothing. We have nothing. We're excited about the guys playing. I'll continue to explore and see if we can make the team better. At this point I'm excited about watching our guys practice.

"I'll continue to work the phones. It's going to be a methodical process whether we do a deal now or six months from now or next year. But there is nothing."

King admitted there was a sense of frustration in trying to make a big deal happen.

"It's a process," he said. "Anytime I made a trade it's a process. Some of them take two years to get to the point when you get the player you want. Some take two weeks. I think you've got to make sure you do it and do it the right way."

The person who spoke to The AP indicated New Jersey would ship Derrick Favors, the No. 3 pick overall in the draft and at least one first-round pick to the Nuggets for Anthony. New Jersey would also send point guard Devin Harris to Charlotte. There were other pieces to the trade that the person wouldn't discuss.

Anthony averaged 28.2 points, 6.6 rebounds and 3.2 assists in leading the Nuggets (53-29) to their second straight Northwest Division title. The 26-year-old three-time NBA All Star 30.7 points and 8.5 rebounds in the opening round of the playoffs but it was not good enough to prevent Denver from being eliminated by Utah in six games.

The third overall pick in the 2003 draft, Anthony has career averages of 24.5 points and 7.1 rebounds.

Anthony has only played 69 or less games in three of the last four seasons, with his low of 66 coming in 2008-09.

In this six photo combination, Jim Furyk reacts after winning the FedEx Cup and The Tour Championship golf tournament at East Lake Golf Club in Atlanta Sunday, Sept. 26, 2010. AP

A $10M bunker save for Furyk

ATLANTA (AP)—One clutch shot gave Jim Furyk two big trophies Sunday.

He sat between them Sunday afternoon after his dramatic victory in the rain at East Lake, the crystal trophy for the Tour Championship on his left and the sterling silver FedEx Cup trophy on his right.

Which one meant more?

Furyk reached out his right hand and gently tapped the silver cup, which might be more valuable than the $10 million that comes with it.

Clinging to a one-shot lead, in a bunker so deep he could only see the top of the lip, Furyk hit a clean shot and watched it head for the flag. It landed inches from the cup and spun to a stop 2 1/2 feet away for an easy par and a one-shot victory over Luke Donald.

He put his name on a trophy with Tiger Woods and Vijay Singh. He finally won the Tour Championship, giving him three victories in a season for the first time in his career. He stated a strong case—three victories and FedEx Cup champion—as PGA Tour player of the year.

Maybe that explains why his stoic demeanor gave way to a celebration never before seen out of Furyk.

"It just hit me," said Furyk, who closed with an even-par 70. "I was excited and dropped the putter and ... I don't know. I guess at that moment, you're not really responsible for what happens next."

He thrust his fist toward the grandstand with such force that it looked like he heaved his golf ball into the crowd. And he shared a hug with his wife, Tabitha, asking her, "Did I win the bonus?"

Furyk had a pretty good idea when he walked off the 18th tee, and the cheer of the crowd when he tapped in only confirmed it.

It was the kind of finish the PGA Tour had in mind when it created the FedEx Cup four years ago. Six players had a chance to claim the $10 million prize over the final hour at East Lake, from Matt Kuchar as the top seed to Nick Watney all the way down at No. 28.

Then came the final hole.

Donald chipped in for birdie from 100 feet on the 17th hole to keep his hopes alive. Furyk, who had a three-shot lead with three holes to play, made bogey on the 16th and 17th holes and hit his hybrid into a bunker on the 18th. If he made bogey, Furyk and Donald would go back to the 230-yard 18th hole for a sudden-death playoff with $11.35 million riding on the outcome.

Then came a bunker shot that defined a career worth of grit. He was in a bunker nine times at East Lake, and saved par every time.

Donald didn't bother going to the range. He waited in the scoring trailer.

"I didn't feel like going out in the rain and drowning myself even more," Donald said. "So I was just watching the action, seeing if there was a chance I was going to get in a playoff. But Jim made a great up-and-down at the last and deserved the victory."

Furyk finished at 8-under 272 and earned $1.35 million, along with the $10 million bonus, the biggest payoff in golf. He moved to No. 5 in the world ranking.

Furyk was the No. 3 seed when the playoffs began, but was disqualified from the opener when he missed his pro-am time at The Barclays because the battery died in his cell phone, which he used for an alarm. He was No. 11 in the standings going into the Tour Championship, and became the first player out of the top 10 to win the cup.

Turns out he joins Woods as the only FedEx Cup champions to miss the first playoff event—Woods in 2007 because he didn't want to play, Furyk this year because he couldn't. He still ranks the U.S. Open as his biggest win, although this was a close second.

"It's only 4 years old," he said of the FedEx Cup. "But 40 years from now, there should be a lot of history in this trophy. And to have 'Tiger Woods, Vijay Singh, Tiger Woods, Jim Furyk' ... I'm very proud of that, because those two can flat play—two of the most dominant players of my era, for sure."

This Sunday was so bizarre that Kuchar, who shot 71 and tied for 25th in a 30-man field, still had a chance to win the FedEx Cup. He wound up second for a $3 million bonus. Donald moved up to third in the standings and picked up an extra $2 million.

Retief Goosen also had a chance at both trophies until a bogey on the 17th. He shot a 71 and finished alone in third at the Tour Championship. Watney (67) and Casey (69) tied for fourth.

The celebration was dampened by a two-hour rain delay that sent most of the fans home from East Lake. For those who stayed, it was tough to applaud with one hand on the umbrella as the rain pounded the players over the final hour of competition.

Even so, a FedEx Cup finale has never had so many possibilities, so much movement.

Watney wasn't even a remote candidate when he went into the weekend tied for 25th in the 30-man field, 13 shots out of the lead. Then came a 63 in the third round, and he kept right on going. Watney shot a 28 on the back nine Saturday, then had a 30 on the front nine Sunday to pull within one shot of the lead.

Watney could have won the FedEx Cup with a victory at East Lake, provided Kuchar did not finish alone in 25th. Kuchar missed a 7-foot par putt on the final hole.

That became irrelevant when Watney failed to birdie the par-5 15th and made his first bogey of the round on the 16th.

Even when Furyk had a three-shot lead after his birdie on the 15th, the FedEx Cup remained in doubt.

Casey, who has not won a tournament all year, could have claimed the $10 million bonus by finishing alone in second place. Casey was at 6 under—one shot behind Goosen in second—when he hit his approach toward the corporate tents on the 17th. After a free drop, he hit a wedge to just outside 5 feet and badly missed the putt.

Furyk has no time to celebrate. He was to join his teammates on a charter flight to Wales on Sunday night with another cup to try to win—the Ryder Cup—this one worth no money at all.

Cain takes no-no into 8th, Giants top Rockies, 4-2

DENVER (AP)—Matt Cain didn't allow a hit into the eighth inning, pitching the San Francisco Giants past the fading Colorado Rockies 4-2 on Sunday and back into first place in the National League West.

San Francisco moved a half-game ahead of San Diego, which lost to Cincinnati. The Rockies, who have dropped six of seven, fell 4 1/2 games behind the Giants and four back of the Padres in the wild-card race.

Reds 12, Padres 2

At San Diego, Chris Heisey homered and hit a three-run double to lead Cincinnati to a romp over San Diego that reduced its magic number to one for winning the NL Central.

Joey Votto and Brandon Phillips also homered for the Reds, denied a chance to clinch the division title Sunday when St. Louis beat the Chicago Cubs. Cincinnati is off Monday and then opens a three-game series at home Tuesday night against Houston.

Mets 7, Phillies 3

At Philadelphia, Carlos Beltran hit a pair of homers and David Wright also connected as New York prevented Philadelphia from clinching their fourth straight NL East title at home.

The two-time defending NL champions came in needing a win and a loss by Atlanta to secure the division crown. The Braves lost to Washington, dropping Philadelphia's magic number to one.

Nationals 4, Braves 2

At Washington, Atlanta's drive for the NL wild card spun its wheels again, with wild pitchers and missed opportunities at the plate contributing to a loss to last-place Washington.

Every Nationals player who scored got on base with a walk, the last two runs coming on Ian Desmond's tiebreaking single in the seventh that followed three straight free passes from the Braves bullpen.

Cardinals 8, Cubs 7

At Chicago, Albert Pujols hit his league-leading 42nd home run as St. Louis held off Chicago to prevent the Reds from clinching the NL Central title.

Pujols hit a three-run homer and Matt Pagnozzi drove in three runs as the Cardinals took an 8-0 lead in the fifth. The Cubs finished 35-46 at Wrigley Field this season.

Pirates 9, Astros 3

At Pittsburgh, Paul Maholm limited Houston to one run over seven innings to win consecutive starts for the first time all season as Pittsburgh turned catcher Jason Castro's throwing error into its first two runs.

Maholm (9-15) avoided adding to his NL-leading loss total, permitting Carlos Lee's two-out RBI double in the first before shutting out the Astros over the next six innings.

Brewers 7, Marlins 1

At Milwaukee, Ryan Braun hit two of Milwaukee's four home runs and Chris Capuano pitched six sharp innings before leaving with an injury in Milwaukee's victory over Florida.

Capuano (4-4) limited the Marlins to one run and four hits. He came out to start the seventh, but left the mound after a couple of warmup tosses because of a strained left groin.

Diamondbacks 5, Dodgers 4

At Phoenix, Chris Young and Tony Abreu each hit a two-run homer in a four-run eighth inning to rally Arizona past Los Angeles.

The comeback spoiled a 13-strikeout effort from Dodgers starter Chad Billingsley, who tied a career high.

Yankees 4, Red Sox 3

At New York, on a night when Mariano Rivera and Jonathan Papelbon both failed to hold ninth-inning leads, Juan Miranda drew a bases-loaded walk from Hideki Okajima in the 10th that gave the New York Yankees a dramatic win over the Boston Red Sox.

New York stopped a four-game losing streak that matched its season high. The Yankees cut the magic number to one for their 15th playoff berth in 16 years and closed within a half-game of American League East-leading Tampa Bay.

Mariners 6, Rays 2

At St. Petersburg, Florida, Josh Wilson hit a tiebreaking, three-run homer in the sixth inning off James Shields as Seattle stalled AL East-leading Tampa Bay.

The Rays' four-game winning streak ended. Tampa Bay's lead in the AL East was cut to a half-game.

Rangers 16, Athletics 9

At Oakland, California, rookie Mitch Moreland homered twice and drove in a season-high five runs to lead AL West champion Texas past Trevor Cahill Oakland.

David Murphy hit a two-run homer and Jeff Francoeur added a solo shot as the Rangers won their third straight game. A day after clinching the division, Texas rested many of its regulars and still got a season-high 22 hits.

Tigers 5, Twins 1

At Detroit, Miguel Cabrera set off an "MVP!" chant with his career-high 38th homer, helping Detroit beat Minnesota in their final home game of the season.

Rick Porcello (10-11) gave up a solo homer to Delmon Young and just three other hits over eight innings.

Blue Jays 5, Orioles 2

At Toronto, major league home run leader Jose Bautista was twice hit by pitches, leading to the ejection of Baltimore manager Buck Showalter as Toronto the Orioles.

Bautista has hit 52 homers this year, including nine against the Orioles. Rick VandenHurk (0-1) hit Bautista in the third inning, then Shaun Marcum (13-8) plunked Orioles designated hitter Luke Scott to begin the fourth.

White Sox 4, Angels 3

At Anaheim, California, Juan Pierre tripled home the tying run and scored on Omar Vizquel's single in the seventh inning, leading Chicago over Los Angeles.

The White Sox have beaten the Angels seven straight times, their longest winning streak against them since a 10-game stretch in 1983-84.

Indians 5, Royals 3

At Cleveland, pinch-hitter Michael Brantley's two-run double capped a five-run rally in the eighth inning that carried Cleveland over Kansas City.

Shelley Duncan tied the game with a three-run homer off Robinson Tejeda (3-5). Singles by Asdrubal Cabrera and Shin-Soo Choo started the inning before Duncan homered.

Incredibles keep pace with 8-ball leaders

WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The IT&E Incredibles pose for a group photo in Buddies Bar & Grill after an impressive 6-1 home win over D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Pirates in the Budweiser Open 8-ball League last Tuesday.

The IT&E Incredibles dominated D'Pirates Bar & Grill Pirates, 6-1, in last week's Saipan Billiards Association Budweiser Open 8-ball League.

The win allowed the Incredibles to move closer to co-leaders Jonny's IT&E Voyagers and the Docomo Hustlers, who hold identical 20-8 records. The Incredibles own an 18-10 slate, tying Jonny's Home Boyz and USSP Fotten Palau.

The home team Incredibles won four of the five singles matches and then swept the two double matches for a strong finish. D'Pirates Bar & Grill's lone win in the singles event came off a tiebreak.

In other results, the Voyagers recorded an automatic victory against VFW's Toro-Key-Ree after nearly sweeping the singles matches. The Voyagers added a doubles match win for a 5-2 triumph.

The Docomo Hustlers also cruised to an easy win after whipping D'Pirates Bar & Grill Who-Oah!, 6-1. The Hustlers won four of five singles matches, three were off tiebreakers, and then swept both doubles games to force a tie for the lead with rival Voyagers.

The Home Boyz swept USSP's Turtles on the road, 7-0, with the last win decided by tiebreak.

Wild Bill's Shark Attack held strong at home to knock off Fotten Palau, 4-3. Shark attack won the first three singles matches, one via tiebreaker, and then recovered in the final doubles match to secure the win.

Action in the weekly league continues tonight with Fotten Palau facing Incredibles, the Home Boys hosting Shark Attack, the Pirates dueling sister team Who-Oah!, Toro-Key-Ree battling the Turtles, and the Hustlers challenging the Voyagers.

ESTOLAS

From Page 28

ery. He had two highlight plays in the finals, making a buzzer-beating triple in the third period just a few feet away from midcourt and drilling a crucial banked shot with the 24-second shot clock ticking in the last two minutes of the game.

On defense, Estolas had a couple of steals and did a great job providing help defense against Armatech gunner Elmer Esdrelon in the fourth quarter. In the third period, Estolas was pitted against the taller and beefier Peter Mendiola and the former did his best pushing off the latter out of the paint.

Besides winning the MVP plum, Estolas was also named to the Mythical Five, joining teammate Kelvin Fitial, Armatech's Esdrelon and Junar Guiab, and the Sparks' Tom Santos.

Two more Mobil players also received individual awards with Marvin Rabauliman winning the best in steals plum and Jomary Tumaquip getting the best in assists trophy. Mobil's Deocares took the Best Coach trophy.

Not to be outdone were Armatech players, as Bruce Berline and Kirk Schuler claimed the best in rebounds and best defender awards, respectively.

The sportsmanship award went to Joeten Superstores, while Oches and the Sparks gained the fourth and third place trophies, respectively.

Marianas Wireless and MBI Right Guard should have won the two runner-up trophies as they were scheduled to battle in the consolation game. However, both teams did not show up for the match, forfeiting their chances to win trophies.

Meanwhile, league organizers also presented plaques of appreciation to companies/individuals who supported the participating teams. The inaugural Emon Lodge caging drew 10 teams; Armatech, Mobil, Marianas Wireless, MBI Right Guard, Kagman Sparks, Wings Travel, Joeten Superstores, Marianas Resort, and Tropical Laundry.

SONICS

From Page 28

The wheels came off for the G-Stars in the end as they only managed three points in the last quarter, while the Rollers dogged them, 49-32.

Darag led Rollers C with 12 points, while Ed Manalili led the way for G-Stars with 10 markers.

In Saturday's second matchup, the Sonics saved their best for last en route to a 60-40 lopsided victory against Rollers A.

The Rollers A crew hung in there with the Sonics and only trailed by a couple of buckets, 25-21, at halftime.

However, the Sonics began to pull away from Rollers A in the third quarter after some key defensive adjustment.

Jack Aranda led the charge with eight points in the third to help give the Sonics a comfortable 11-point lead, 46-35, heading into the final period.

Rollers A was held to only five points in the fourth as the Sonics ran away with it at the end.

Aranda led all scorers with 17 points, while Buboy Alegre chipped in 10 in the win. Mike Dela Rosa pumped in 10 points in the loss.

The Rollers club finished the day with a 2-1 record after Rollers B edged Agape in overtime, 45-42, in the third and last game of Saturday's tripleheader.

After an even 7-7 opening quarter, Rollers B managed a five-point lead, 18-13, at the half and then extended the margin to seven, 32-24, heading into the final period.

Down by seven, Agape's James Lixing lit it up in the clutch with an impressive 11-point effort good enough to knot the score at 38-all and force overtime.

Overtime went back and forth and it was really anybody's game. Two Agape players were injured late in the final quarter and during overtime that may have factored into Agape letting the game slip away.

In any case, Rollers B played with the lead for the majority of the game and smart decisions by their point man, Irvin Maloza, down the stretch secured the victory when the dust settled.

First Game

Rollers C 49 – Darag 12, Yap 12, Franklin 6, Iglesias 6, Ocaya 5, Feria 4, Castillo 2, Floresca 2.

G-Stars 49 – Manalili 10, Cudia 6, Bai 5, Chan 5, Caro 2.

Scoring by quarters: 11-6, 22-20, 36-29, 49-32.

Second Game

Sonics 60 – Aranda 17, Alegre 10, Salem 9, Mizer 7, De Guzman 6, Villanueva 6, Estrada 3, Escalada 2.

Rollers A 40 – Dela Rosa 10, Escueta 9, Kautz 7, Lansang 6, C. Camacho 4, Hambros 3, D. Camacho 1.

Scoring by quarters: 12-9, 25-21, 46-35, 60-40.

Third Game

Rollers B 45 – Kwon 16, Factor 7, Maloza 7, Camacho 6, Deleon Guerrero 3, Capuyon 2, Gabria 2, Pangelinan 2.

Agape 52 – Lixing 19, Wang 9, Puno 6, Xia 5, Zheng 2.

Scoring by quarters: 7-7, 18-13, 32-25, 38-38, 45-42, OT.

THREE

From Page 28

Campus in Istanbul, all three were also able to watch a handful of games in the 2010 FIBA World Championships.

Cudia and Castillo learned both basic and advanced basketball drills in the camp and played three-on-three basketball scrimmages daily as well.

"We learned a lot about teamwork and it was fun meeting people from so many different places," said Castillo.

"It was a lot of fun at camp, we learned a lot of practice drills that we can pass on to other CNMI players and we also had a great time watching FIBA Championship Tournament," said Cudia.

The campers also found time to partake in other sightseeing activities such as a ship tour of the Blue Mosque and an ocean tour.

Both Castillo and Cudia are 14 years old. Castillo has been playing basketball for two years and also enjoys playing soccer, tried some softball, and wants to take a crack at tennis in the future.

Cudia has been playing his favorite sport, basketball, exclusively for three years. They both received reversible practice uniforms as parting gifts from the trip.

Castillo plays for the Rollers B squad and Cudia on the G-Stars in the Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League U15 division. The two campers faced each other in the first game of last Saturday's triple-header season opener at Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Tampa Bay	93	62	.600	—
New York	93	63	.596	1/2
Boston	86	69	.555	7
Toronto	80	75	.516	13
Baltimore	61	94	.394	32

Central Division

x-Minnesota	92	63	.594	—
Chicago	83	72	.535	9
Detroit	80	75	.516	12
Cleveland	65	91	.417	27 1/2
Kansas City	63	92	.406	29

West Division

x-Texas	87	68	.561	—
Oakland	77	78	.497	10
Los Angeles	75	80	.484	12
Seattle	59	96	.381	28

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

Philadelphia	93	63	.596	—
Atlanta	87	69	.558	6
Florida	77	78	.497	15 1/2
New York	76	79	.490	16 1/2
Washington	67	89	.429	26

Central Division

Cincinnati	87	69	.558	—
St. Louis	80	75	.516	6 1/2
Houston	74	82	.474	13
Milwaukee	73	82	.471	13 1/2
Chicago	70	85	.452	16 1/2
Pittsburgh	55	100	.355	31 1/2

West Division

San Francisco	88	68	.564	—
San Diego	87	68	.561	1/2
Colorado	83	72	.535	4 1/2
Los Angeles	75	81	.481	13
Arizona	64	92	.410	24

Yesterday's Games
Washington 4, Atlanta 2
Pittsburgh 9, Houston 3
N.Y. Mets 7, Philadelphia 3
Milwaukee 7, Florida 1
St. Louis 8, Chicago Cubs 7
San Francisco 4, Colorado 2
Cincinnati 12, San Diego 2
Arizona 5, L.A. Dodgers 4
Cleveland 5, Kansas City 3
Detroit 5, Minnesota 1
Toronto 5, Baltimore 2
Seattle 6, Tampa Bay 2
Chicago White Sox 4, L.A. Angels 3
Texas 16, Oakland 9
N.Y. Yankees 4, Boston 3, 10 innings

x-clinched division

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
N.Y. Jets	2	1	0	.667	68	47
Miami	2	1	0	.667	52	51
New England	2	1	0	.667	90	82
Buffalo	0	3	0	.000	47	87

South

Houston	2	1	0	.667	77	78
Indianapolis	2	1	0	.667	89	61
Tennessee	2	1	0	.667	78	42
Jacksonville	1	2	0	.333	40	83

North

Pittsburgh	3	0	0	1.000	72	33
Cincinnati	2	1	0	.667	59	55
Baltimore	2	1	0	.667	44	41
Cleveland	0	3	0	.000	45	57

West

Kansas City	3	0	0	1.000	68	38
San Diego	1	2	0	.333	72	61
Denver	1	2	0	.333	61	65
Oakland	1	2	0	.333	52	76

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

Philadelphia	2	1	0	.667	83	62
Washington	1	2	0	.333	56	67
Dallas	1	2	0	.333	54	53
N.Y. Giants	1	2	0	.333	55	85

South

Atlanta	2	1	0	.667	77	46
New Orleans	2	1	0	.667	63	58
Tampa Bay	2	1	0	.667	50	59
Carolina	0	3	0	.000	32	71

North

Chicago	2	0	0	1.000	46	34
Green Bay	2	0	0	1.000	61	27
Minnesota	1	2	0	.333	43	38
Detroit	0	3	0	.000	56	78

West

Seattle	2	1	0	.667	72	57
Arizona	2	1	0	.667	48	77
St. Louis	1	2	0	.333	57	49
San Francisco	0	3	0	.000	38	87

Yesterday's Games
Dallas 27, Houston 13
New England 38, Buffalo 30
Baltimore 24, Cleveland 17
Atlanta 27, New Orleans 24, OT
Tennessee 29, N.Y. Giants 10
Cincinnati 20, Carolina 7
Kansas City 31, San Francisco 10
Pittsburgh 38, Tampa Bay 13
Minnesota 24, Detroit 10
St. Louis 30, Washington 16
Philadelphia 28, Jacksonville 3
Seattle 27, San Diego 20
Arizona 24, Oakland 23
Indianapolis 27, Denver 13
N.Y. Jets 31, Miami 23

TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP SCORES

ATLANTA (AP)–Final scores Sunday at the Tour Championship, a $7.5 million FedEx Cup tournament played at the par-70, 7,319-yard East Lake Golf Club:

Individual FedEx Cup Points in Parentheses

FINAL ROUND

Jim Furyk (2500), $1,350,000	67-65-70-70–272
Luke Donald (1500), $810,000	66-66-71-70–273
Retief Goosen (1000), $517,500	71-66-66-71–274
Nick Watney (650), $330,000	71-74-63-67–275
Paul Casey (650), $330,000	66-71-69-69–275
Charley Hoffman (500), $270,000	71-67-69-70–277
Ernie Els (438), $247,500	71-71-71-65–278
K.J. Choi (438), $247,500	68-68-74-68–278
Zach Johnson (363), $208,125	74-72-66-67–279
Camilo Villegas (363), $208,125	73-69-68-69–279
Ryan Moore (363), $208,125	70-72-68-69–279
Kevin Streelman (363), $208,125	70-70-69-70–279
Tim Clark (293), $178,500	70-73-70-67–280
Geoff Ogilvy (293), $178,500	66-67-72-75–280
Justin Rose (278), $162,000	74-68-72-67–281
Hunter Mahan (278), $162,000	69-71-73-68–281
Ben Crane (260), $147,000	71-69-76-66–282
Robert Allenby (260), $147,000	71-70-71-70–282
Bubba Watson (260), $147,000	75-69-67-71–282
Jason Day (260), $147,000	69-69-71-73–282
Kevin Na (260), $147,000	69-68-69-76–282
Dustin Johnson (243), $136,500	73-71-73-66–283
Phil Mickelson (243), $136,500	69-72-68-74–283
Bo Van Pelt (235), $132,000	74-69-69-72–284
Matt Kuchar (228), $127,500	72-70-72-71–285
Steve Stricker (228), $127,500	74-68-68-75–285
Adam Scott (220), $124,500	74-71-69-74–288
Ryan Palmer (215), $123,000	74-72-73-70–289
Jeff Overton (210), $121,500	75-70-73-73–291
Martin Laird (205), $120,000	75-73-74-73–295

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

UFO STANDINGS (FINAL)

Open Division

MDX Chow Queen	6	0
MAFEA-Ali'i	5	1
Cavite	3	3
SIP-Mobil	2	4
SIS-Marianas Wireless	2	4
NMBA-Island Apparel	2	4
Bayani-Soul Jazz	1	5

Masters Division

Cabalen-Wings Travel	3	1
VisMinda-Kids Cove	3	1
MAFEA	2	2
MDX-PTC	2	2
Laguna-Moonlight	0	4

QQ CAGING STANDINGS

Ferrera Builders	2	0
Buraot	2	1
Docomo Pacific	2	1
Westerners	0	3

BACK-TO-BACK

From Page 28

of the seventh inning, 10-all, neither team scored in the first extra inning. Then in the ninth inning, SaiPal's bats kept on swinging and the defending champion scored eight runs.

Peleliu was not as lucky as SaiPal as the former managed to have only one run at the bottom of the ninth inning, handing the latter this year's championship.

Peleliu advanced to the finals first after sweeping the first two games in the elimination round, including a 6-4 semis win over SaiPal in the winner's bracket.

SaiPal dropped to the loser's bracket and had to face Asahi in a do-or-die game to earn a rematch against Peleliu.

In the loser's bracket semis, SaiPal got off two a strong start, leading at 8-0, after two complete innings. Asahi launched a comeback, but still fell short, as SaiPal nailed a 12-5 triumph to take the seconds finals berth.

SaiPal was awarded a carved trophy for winning the tournament, anew, and also received $300 from event sponsor Docomo Pacific.

Tournament coordinator and PCA president Rufino Aguon thanked Docomo Pacific, the participating teams, and volunteers for supporting the fundraising event. Proceeds from the tournament will be used to fund the PCA *abai* (meeting place) that will be built in Navy Hill.

Community volunteers take action into their own hands

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Masters Basketball Federation of the NMI chair Ray Lizama, Rollers Basketball Club head coach Joe Diaz, and other community volunteers continued their ongoing renovation project at the Garapan Basketball Court last Friday.

Lizama also met with Saipan Mayor Donald Flores and Department of Public Work's Technology Services Solution Division to begin initial assessment procedures at the Garapan Court.

At the beginning of September, QQ Car Rental President James Hann donated materials for QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup organizers to install a new sports booth for table officials.

In addition, Sablan Enterprises donated four new spotlights that were installed on the court to improve the visibility during night games and Diaz and his Rollers crew installed protective padding around the basketball posts and sports booth.

A couple of weeks ago a canopy was constructed by the Rollers Basketball Club and other community volunteers with materials provided by Mayor Flores. The new canopy helps keep the gallery cool and dry. The court and bleachers were also painted and more beautification procedures are being planned in the near future, such as improved lawn maintenance and the installation of four new trash bins with lids. Next week community volunteers plan on water blasting the court surface as well.

"First and foremost, I would like to send out a great thanks to everyone who volunteered with the Rollers Basketball Club and coach Diaz for all of their hard work and I also want to thank both Mayor Donald Flores and Sablan Enterprises for their continued support and generosity," said Lizama.

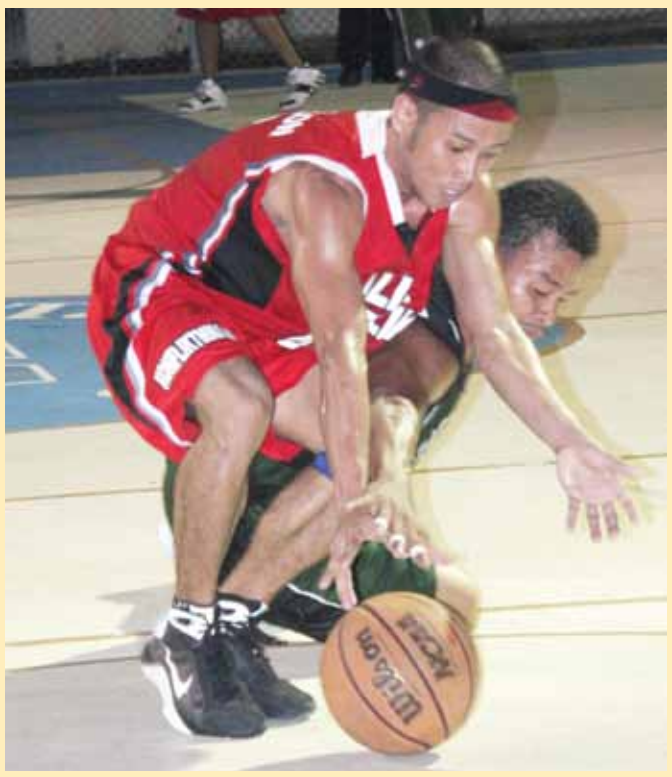
The purpose of the DPW assessment was to determine other renovation issues that need to be addressed such as removing the grass along the inside of the caged fence and replacing it with concrete. Moreover, for safety reasons, Lizama would also like to have DPW, through a contractor, replace the entire fence and reinforce it into the ground. Lizama would also like to better smoothen the surface of the court and improve the water drainage to prevent it from accruing so many puddles when it rains.

"The Garapan Court has always been one of the most popular basketball courts on Saipan. Its primary purpose has always been and always should be for the use of the kids. What's more is that [the court] is located in a high traffic area where many tourists travel by and observe the games as well. These reasons and many more are why it is important to preserve and maintain the court," added Lizama.

Right now, the Precinct 3 basketball court in China Town has precedence over the Garapan Court project, but according to TSSD supervisor Crystal Muna, the China Town project has already been fully assessed and is set to phase out soon. The cost of the China Town project should have a surplus of funds that can be appropriated to the Garapan project. Muna did not confirm any specific dates when either project will start or finish.

WALTER SUTHERLAND

While Department of Public Works began its assessment of the Garapan Basketball Court renovation project last Friday, members of the Rollers Basketball Club and other community volunteers filled in the support beams for the newly erected canopy with concrete and painted the bleachers. Volunteers have been making improvements to the court independently for about a month.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt's Elmer Esdrelon, left, battles MDX-Chow Queen's Dave Sablan for the loose ball, during their game in the UFO caging, which will kick off its playoffs tonight at the JP Center Basketball Court.

UFO league starts playoffs tonight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The double-elimination playoff round in the 2010 United Filipino Organization Inter-Organizational Reinforced Basketball League will begin tonight at the JP Center Basketball Court.

In the masters division, the No. 2 seed VisMinda-Kids Cove will take on last place Laguna-Moonlight in the first game at 7pm.

VisMinda finished the round-robin regular season with a 3-1 record and tied Cabalen-Wings Travel for first place. However, Wings Travel beat VisMinda in the lone meeting in the regular season, 89-96, relegating the latter to the No. 2 spot. Cabalen-Wings Travel absorbed its lone loss in the league at the hands of MDX-Monster, 70-81.

In the first playoff game in the open division, the second-seeded MAFEA-Ali'i Konflikt will duel the last finisher Bayani-Soul Jazz at 8:30pm.

Ali'i Konflikt ended the regular season with a 4-1 record, losing to MDX-Chow Queen (5-0) in the battle for the pennant. Bayani had only one victory in five games in the regular season, making it to the win column before the playoffs started after edging Samahang Ilokano at Pangasinense-Mobil, 94-91.

The playoff round will continue on Thursday with MAFEA-Ebisuya, which finished third in the masters division, squaring off with the No. 4 seed MDX-PTC in the first game.

In the second game, open division No. 3 pick Cavite will face Northern Marianas Bartenders Association-Island Apparel, which is seeded sixth in the playoffs.

On Saturday, the losers of Games 1 in the masters division (VisMinda vs. Laguna) and 2 (MAFEA vs. MDX) will collide in a must-win match at 6:30pm.

In the open division, the third-seeded SIP-Mobil will challenge Samahang Ilonggo sa Saipan-Marianas Wireless at 8pm.

Open division top placer MDX-Chow Queen drew a bye in the first round of the playoffs and will not see action in the league until next week. Defending champion MDX swept the regular season after winning their final game against SIS last week via forfeiture.

The loss to MDX dropped SIS to a 2-4 record and created a three-way tie for fourth to sixth place with Mobil and NMBA. In the quotient system, SIP ended with the highest points, followed by SIS and NMBA.

Chagi Fan still ahead despite upset loss

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 3-12 surprise loss to sister team Black Pearls failed to knock off Buddies Bar & Grill's Chagi Fan from its lofty perch in the C King Fisher Division of the Saipan Electronic Dart Association Wednesday night.

Black Pearls and Chagi Fan won a pair of singles 301 matches before the former unleashed a seven-game winning run against the latter.

The Black Pearls won both wild cricket games, both partners 501 matches, and three of four cricket matches to clinch the automatic win.

The team went on to add both partners baseball games and the final team 1001 to its total. Black Pearls' David Terlaje won all six of his matches and teammate Pedro Teregeyo went a perfect five out of five.

Despite the loss, Chagi Fan still holds a seven-game lead over Black Pearls and Charlies' Bar & Grill's Team Sabalu with a 73-47 win-loss mark.

Notables in the division last week include a 120 High-In by Polly Omechelang of USS Peleliu Club's Slow Hand and a 153 High-Out by Sabalu's Ray Aguon.

Other results in the C King Fisher Division last Wednesday saw Sang and the Gang beat Sabalu, 8-7, and Slow Hand take down Lucky Shots, 10-5.

One Shot at helm of C Chichirika

Over in the C Chichirika Division, VFW Post 3457's One Shot continued to lead the pack after a close 8-7 road victory against Gaia's World V Wednesday.

World V actually started off well, winning three of four singles 301 matches and both wild cricket games.

After both teams won a game of partners 501 and a pair of cricket matches, One Shot finished strong down the home stretch, taking both partners baseball games and the final team 1001 game for the victory.

With a 72-48 record, One Shot holds a five-game margin over Buddies' Kagman 1 (67-53). Jonny's Night Hawks (61-59) and Gaia Bar's Gaiana C (60-60) are in a good fight for third. Notables in the division include a 120 High-In by One Shot's Kevin Maratita.

Other matches in the C Chichirika Division last week had Night Hawks nip Kagman-7, 8-7, and Gaiana C bludgeon Oh! MG, 11-4.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Night Hawks players pose for a team photo at home in Johnny's Bar & Grill after their 8-7 victory over Chichirika C division second place team Kagman 1 team last Wednesday.

Wings Travel routs Westerners, 79-60

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Wings Travel evened out their record to a pair of wins and two losses after pouncing on the Westerners, 79-60, in the third game of last Friday night's QQ Car Rental Basketball Cup at Garapan Basketball Court.

Tony Diaz led Wings Travel with eight points in the opening period to help his team jump ahead, 23-12. Diaz took a break in the second period, but his team still managed to trade baskets with the Westerners to maintain a comfortable 15-point lead, 43-28, going into halftime.

The Westerners were never able to recover from the early deficit as Wings Travel outscored them in every quarter.

Wings Travel stretched it to a 20-point margin, 62-42, heading into the final period. Then Diaz added eight markers in the last quarter to help slam the door on the Westerners.

Diaz went on to lead Wings Travel with 21 points, while Mike Olaitiman paced Westerners with 20 markers.

Currently, the Ferrera Builders remain the only unbeaten team after two games played, while Buraot and Docomo Pacific both have a pair of wins with a loss. The Westerners are the sole winless team after three games and have yet to log in a competitive outing.

Wings Travel 79 – Diaz 21, Berline 11, Morales 10, Talania 9, Guiang 8, Keizer 6, Yalung 5, Camacho 4, Pantola 3, Olivos 2

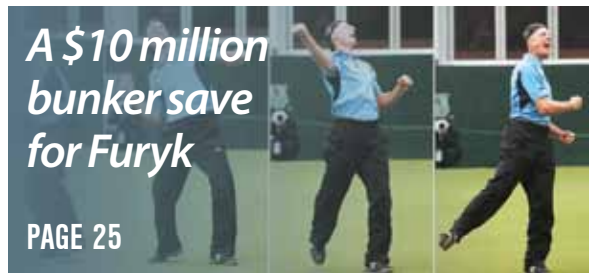
Westerners 60 – Olaitiman 20, Libuw 13, Tagabuel 10, Santos 8, Rapugan 3, Esliuguan 2, Shumai 2, Tawanpiy 2

Scoring by quarters: 23-12, 43-28, 62-42, 79-60.

Edwards' long TD helps Jets beat Dolphins

PAGE 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports



A $10 million bunker save for Furyk

PAGE 25

Back-to-back titles for SaiPal

A SaiPal batter eyes the ball during their title game against Peleliu in the 2010 Palauan Community Association/ Docomo Pacific Slow-pitch Softball Tournament last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Same teams, same results.

SaiPal and Peleliu had a finals rematch in the 2010 Palauan Community Association/Docomo Pacific Slow-pitch Softball Tournament with the former winning the fundraising event anew last Sunday at the Dandan Elementary School Ballfield.

The 2009 champion SaiPal prevailed in two games in the championship duel, foiling Peleliu's bid for revenge.

Peleliu and SaiPal met in last year's finals with the latter having a twice-to-beat advantage in the championship round. Peleliu won Game 1, 2-0, but could not complete the come-from-behind win, as SaiPal finally prevailed, 14-6.

In the 2010 finals, fortunes switched with Peleliu this time holding the twice-to-beat advantage after gaining the first finals berth and SaiPal coming from the loser's bracket and winning the second finals ticket.

In Game 1 of last weekend's finals, SaiPal drew first blood, making one run at the bottom of the first, while Peleliu was scoreless in the first two innings. Peleliu broke its silence in the third, scoring one run and had two more in the fifth, which ended in a tie, 3-all, as SaiPal also tallied two runs in the fourth.

After the deadlock, SaiPal tasted its biggest lead at 7-4, and Peleliu was forced to score at least three runs to extend the game and four to win at the top of the seventh inning. Peleliu did neither, as it logged only two runs, allowing SaiPal to force a deciding Game 2.

In the rubber-match, SaiPal and Peleliu went neck-and-neck and had to play two extra innings before the former pulled off an 18-11 win to claim back-to-back titles.

After the deadlock at the end

See BACK-TO-BACK on Page 26

Estolas named MVP in Emon Lodge caging

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

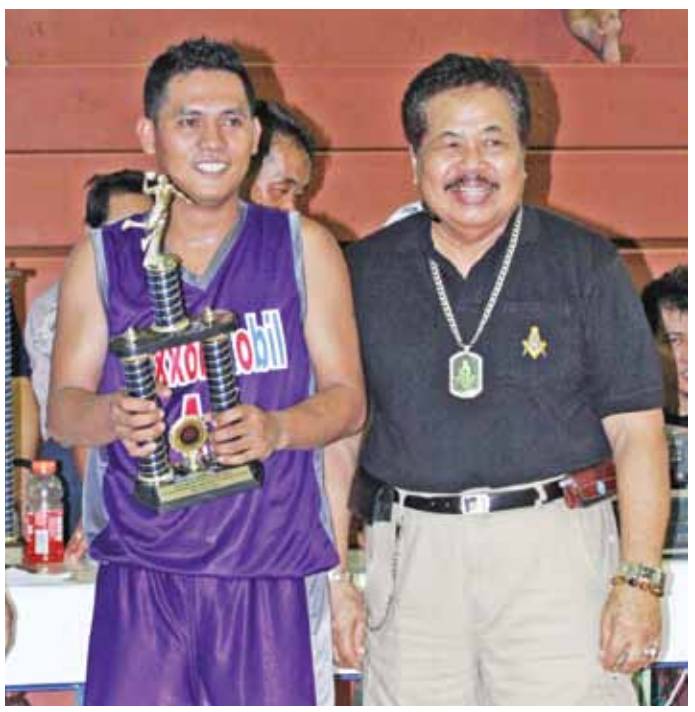
Mobil team captain Jun Estolas added another MVP trophy to his growing collection after taking the coveted award given to the top individual performer in the 2010 Emon Lodge 179 Freemasonry Inter-Color Basketball League last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Estolas was chosen MVP of the inaugural caging after leading Mobil to an 8-1 record in the regular season and to the championship against Armatech. The Mobil guard was among the top scorers on the team and was still the go-to-guy of coach Marvin Deocares despite the presence of former and current CNMI national players on the squad.

The Mobil gunner capped his impressive showing in the Emon Lodge caging with a 32-point performance in last Sunday's finals, lifting his team to a 93-80 title win over Armatech.

In that victory, Estolas scored in streaks midway in the fourth quarter to lead Mobil's recov-

See ESTOLAS on Page 26



Most valuable player Jun Estolas, left, of Mobil poses with his MVP trophy and Emon Lodge 179 Freemasonry's Jess Delos Santos during the awards ceremony for the Emon Lodge caging last Sunday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

WALTER SUTHERLAND

Rollers C players are all smiles after winning their first game in dominating fashion over the G-Stars last Saturday as the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball U15 season opened at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

Sonics, Rollers B and C win U15 debuts

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Sonics along with the Rollers B and C teams won their debut games as the 2010 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball U15 division season kicked off last Saturday at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.

In the first game, the Rollers C squad ran the court all over the G-Stars to win its debut, 49-32.

Rollers C's John Darag led the way with six points to match the G-Stars' team effort in the opening period.

Ahead 11-6, Darag sat down in the second quarter, but his teammate Jason Iglesias stepped up and delivered six markers to help Rollers C maintain a three-point lead, 23-20, at the half.

Rollers C tightened up their defense after halftime and extended their lead to seven, 36-29, heading into the final period.

See SONICS on Page 26

Three share experiences from hoops camp in Turkey

By WALTER SUTHERLAND
walter_sutherland@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Youth basketball players Ed Cudia and Jeraldine S. Castillo joined over 200 kids from 110 different countries in last month's Children of the World Basketball Camp in Turkey.

The two were joined by Rollers Basketball Club head coach Joe Diaz and aside from the camp, which was held from Aug. 24 to 31, 2010 at the Darusafaka

See THREE on Page 26

Ed Cudia, left, and Jeraldine S. Castillo, right, pose with Rollers Basketball Club's Joe Diaz while showcasing their Children of the World Basketball Camp jerseys at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium last Saturday.

WALTER SUTHERLAND